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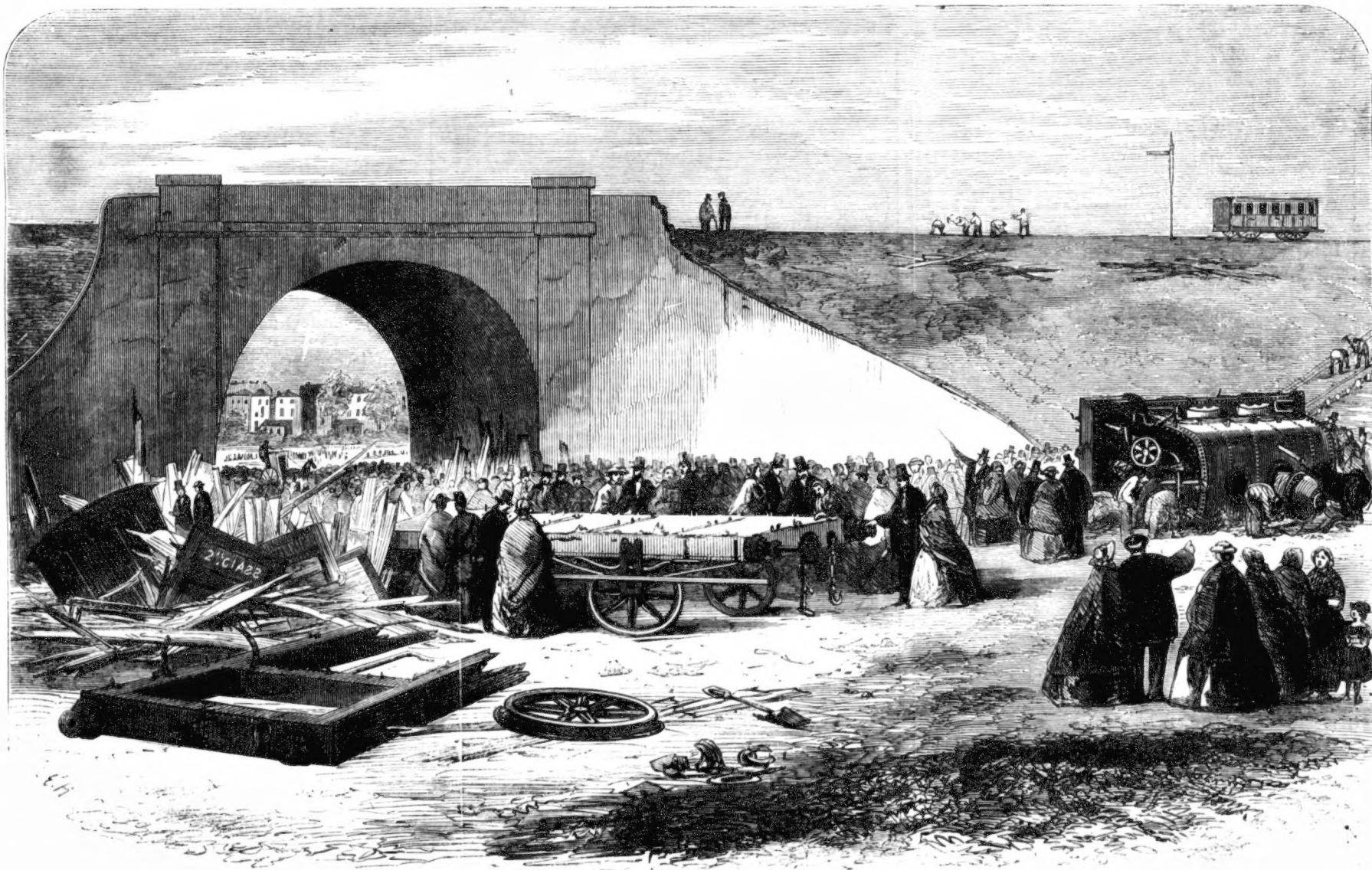
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE solution of the Roman question is still in abeyance. The man of mystery disowns the now famous pamphlet on the abolition of the temporal power of the Papacy, and denies that his riddle is yet read. It was but a pilot-balloon sent up to test the current of popular opinion, and, having accomplished that purpose, it is naturally thrown aside and rejected. One thing, however, is quite certain:—Had the views propounded by the pamphleteer been unacceptable to the Government, their publication would have been prohibited, or, at least, their authenticity disavowed at the earliest opportunity. As neither of these courses was pursued, it may be fairly assumed that, although possibly premature, the suggestions themselves found favour with the chief of the State. The deliverance of the capital of Italy is, therefore, only deferred for a brief period, until a better bargain can be struck with the brave but not brilliant Monarch who yearns for the completion of his kingdom. So long as the conduct of affairs remains in the hands of Baron Ricasoli, further cessions of territory to the ideal and disinterested ruler of the French are not to be expected; and, consequently, intrigues have been started with a view to transfer to Count Arese, the Emperor's personal friend, the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Thus far Victor Emmanuel has firmly supported his Minister, and is even reported to have refused to make any change in the Ministry until he shall have received the crown of Italy in her only legitimate and possible capital. Louis Napoleon, indeed, may perchance have been checked in his project for the immediate liberation of Rome by the alleged alliance between Austria and Spain. It is not that France has much to fear from the union of those two Powers; but it is no part of the Imperial policy to bring together any two of the European Governments. On the contrary, from his first usurpation of the throne, Napoleon III. has never ceased to foment international jealousies and discontent, in order to keep Europe in a constant state of disquietude and distrust. Indirectly encouraging the disaffected in each country by frequent allusions to the revolutionary principles of '89, and by affecting to attach paramount importance to the spirit of nationality and the vote by universal suffrage, he has contrived to provide every Continental Government with ample employment at home, and has thus prevented all opposition to the moral and territorial aggrandisement of France. In pur-

suance of this Machiavellian policy, the Emperor, it is alleged, has engaged himself to assist Sweden and Denmark in forming a counterpoise to the power of Russia in the Baltic. With this view the Finns are to be incited to claim the right of self-government guaranteed to them by the Treaty of Fredericsham in 1809, in virtue of which they were torn from the kingdom of Sweden and forcibly annexed to Russia. Should the Russian Government endeavour to suppress this agitation with a strong hand, the spirit of nationality will be evoked, and the Finns will be invited to declare by a "plebiscite"—such is the jargon of the day—whether they will remain under their present or revert to their former rulers. To this it may be objected that France and Russia are closely allied by a common policy with regard to Turkey, and that it is therefore very unlikely that Louis Napoleon would weaken his chance of obtaining substantial advantages in the East for the sake of the "idea" of emancipating the Finns from a foreign yoke. But a little reflection will show that, by creating difficulties for Russia in Europe, he is actually improving his own position with reference to the future spoils of the Ottoman empire. There is now, indeed, some reason to hope that the fall of that empire is not so imminent as it lately appeared to be. Should Sultan Abdul Aziz be permitted to carry out his measures of reform in his own way without the officious interposition of Christian Governments, it is not too late to resuscitate the vitality of the "sick man," and restore him to health. Earl Russell, indeed, does not hesitate to express his conviction that the great natural resources of Turkey will prove amply sufficient to carry her through her present difficulties, though he somewhat ungraciously adds that the Sultan must not look to this country for a guarantee should he find it necessary to raise a loan. Since his retreat to the dignified retirement of the peerage the noble Earl has apparently employed his leisure hours in studying the once familiar but long-since-forgotten pages of Lemprière, and his imagination has been forcibly arrested by the unprofitable labours of the daughters of Danaus. To guarantee a Turkish loan, he classically remarks in his despatch to Sir Henry Bulwer, would be like pouring water into a cask with a hole in the bottom of it. But, after all, may not this somewhat trivial illustration have been an interpolation of his amanuensis? Should it not rather be regarded as a marginal reading, incorporated into the text through the dulness of his private secretary, for whose benefit it was whispered as an "aside"?

However this may have been, it was scarcely complimentary to a friendly Sovereign to liken his dominions to a cask that could hold no water. It must be owned that our Foreign Secretary is a little too prone to assume patronising airs towards inferior Powers. Thus we find the noble Earl imparting to the Spanish Government his friendly apprehension lest the disunited States of North America should adjust their differences more speedily than has been generally anticipated, and call Spain to account for the reannexation of San Domingo. His Lordship evidently entertained no doubts as to the result of such an interpellation, but, with a comical grimace, intended to denote sympathy, mildly expresses a hope that Spain will not be seriously hurt in the encounter. Unfortunately, there is but little ground to look for an early adjustment of the quarrel between the Federal and Confederate States—indeed, a new and fatal element of antagonism has been introduced in the ill-judged proclamation of freedom to the slaves of the Secessionists. It now becomes with the latter not a mere contention on a point of honour or policy, but a struggle for life or death. Mrs. Harriett Beecher Stowe and her "Christian and philanthropical" friends would have the world believe that it is chiefly, if not solely, with a view to effect the abolition of slavery that the Northern States have taken up arms with such enthusiasm. They would have evinced, we think, a somewhat better appreciation of the true principles of Christianity and philanthropy, had they condescended to follow the example of the mother country and voted an indemnity to the planters for the losses they might sustain through the emancipation of the slaves. And there is at least one consideration that should have recommended this course to the favourable notice of our astute kinsfolk—it would have cost very much less than going to war. We regret to observe that there is considerable danger of this country also becoming involved in hostilities, and in a quarter where neither glory nor more substantial advantages are likely to be achieved. The frequent insults, and even outrages, suffered by British subjects in Mexico, render it absolutely necessary that prompt measures should be adopted for the vindication of the national honour. The only difficulty in the matter is the absence of any really responsible Government. The country is divided into two factions—the one styling itself the Church the other the Constitutional party, but both alike disgraced by acts of atrocity and barbarism. As far as pecuniary compensation is concerned,



THE JURY VIEWING THE SCENE OF THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT KENTISH TOWN.

the seizure of the customs dues might possibly answer every reasonable purpose; but to afford protection to life and property in the interior, is apparently beyond the power of any Government.

London is still a desert inhabited by two millions and a half of souls and bodies. In the west-end squares a fine crop of grass is sprouting through the stones, but in less fashionable quarters windows are being cleaned and shutters thrown open, and "the finest girl in Bloomsbury" is expected very shortly to return from Margate. In the mean time the "common people" confined to the metropolis are occasionally entertained with fires of unusual magnitude or with "frightful catastrophes" and "dreadful collisions." In Paternoster row illuminated MSS. have been the order of the day, and a strong light has been thrown upon both publishers and the public by a brilliant conflagration. Until the last few days, too, a fine opportunity has been afforded to enterprising travellers for exploring hitherto unknown localities by mounting at Charing-cross to the knifeboard of any omnibus bound for Fleet street. No river in Europe, not even the Scheldt, could be more tortuous than the journey thus pursued. *Non cuius homini contingit adire Corinthum.* It is not given to every man to stand on the summit of Mont Blanc, but many thousands every day climb the grassy slopes of Primrose Hill, the Mons Sacer of London, and gaze with admiration on the fields that are yearly producing fresh crops of houses.

THE DISASTER ON THE HAMPSTEAD JUNCTION RAILWAY.

Two more deaths—making in all fourteen—have resulted from this sad occurrence, and there are still several other sufferers whose recovery is very doubtful. One of these two victims is Bolton, the stoker of the excursion-train. It has now been ascertained that at least from fifty to sixty persons were more or less injured on the occasion, many of whom are likely to carry the effects of their hurts with them through life. Large crowds of people visited the scene of the occurrence last week, inspecting the wreck and witnessing the operations of the workmen engaged in removing the signs of the disaster. During the week the engine was got up the embankment from where it had fallen, and was conveyed to the company's works to be repaired. The field adjoining the spot was on Sunday like a fair-green, thousands of persons being assembled in order to view the scene of the disaster. By that time, however, there was little to see, as all traces of the damage done had nearly been obliterated. Reports have been in circulation that there are several persons missing who were believed to have been passengers in the train to which the accident happened, but whether these rumours are correct or not has not yet been ascertained. There were several preachers on the ground on Sunday afternoon, who delivered discourses for which the melancholy occurrence furnished a suitable theme, and to which large audiences listened with attention.

It is now ascertained that Scott, the driver of the train, was conveyed to his own house at Bow shortly after the accident, where the injuries he received were attended to. He had one arm broken, and was otherwise severely bruised, but is rapidly recovering. The coroner's jury visited the scene before beginning to take evidence in detail respecting the fatal occurrence. The illustration on our front page shows the scene while the jury were on the spot.

THE INQUEST.

The inquest was resumed on Friday week, and has been continued from day to day since. The following is the principal evidence adduced:—

John Perkins, engine-driver in the employment of the London and North-Western Company, said he was in charge of the engine to which the ballast-trucks were attached, and was engaged in removing ballast from Bushey to Kentish-town. He was moving it into a siding on Monday evening. He had a guard with him, a fireman, and another person. He thought it was about 5.30 when he reached Kentish-town. He discharged his load, and, having done so, he went to Camden-road station to take in water and fuel, and returned to the siding. When he returned to the siding it was about five minutes past seven. He had looked at the clock at Camden-road on leaving. When he went on to the siding the trucks were attached to his engine. As soon as he put the trucks to the engine he opened the whistle for a signal from the policeman at the Kentish-town station. He received a reply by a wave of the hand from the signalman, signifying that it was all right, and that he was to go out. Witness then left, after seeing both the semaphore signals, one at the station, and the auxiliary one on the down line for the Camben-road station. Both signals blocked the line. The guard detached the engine, and he proceeded on the down line, and recrossed on the up line. Witness's flagman (Stuart) was at the points. He held the points to enable witness to cross on to the up line. There was no one else there. Stuart held the handle of both points. Having recrossed the line, Stuart attached the trucks to the engine, which was then in front of the trucks. The engine having been attached, he proceeded across to the down line again, and drew the train across. There were nineteen trucks and a break-van. When he crossed the signals were standing as they were at first put—namely, at "danger." After he had proceeded a little way he saw the excursion-train coming. That was before he got the engine clear of the up-line. He took it to be an excursion-train by its following so close upon the other one. He had waited for the ordinary train to pass by, knowing that there was a regular train due at that time. As soon as the regular train passed he opened his whistle to cross. He knew nothing about an excursion-train being due—not the least. He was furnished with time-tables showing the regular running of the trains, but he was never informed of the running of excursion-trains. When he first saw the excursion-train coming he went on in order to get his train clear of the line if he could. He could not get it clear, and a collision took place. He had been carrying ballast eight or nine days; twenty trucks was the usual number to have. When he saw the up-train coming he opened his whistle and the flagman waved his flag. Not the least notice was taken of it by the excursion-train. They had no particular time for leaving Bushey. They left whenever they got loaded, and left when they liked. They had papers given to them as to the ordinary trains, and they had to keep clear of those particular trains. They had no instructions with regard to other trains, and were never told they were coming. There was no appearance of anything being done to stop the approaching train, except shutting off the steam. If the danger signal was up at Kentish-town, the driver of the excursion-train ought not to have passed it under any circumstances. If the auxiliary signal was up between Hampstead and the Kentish-town station, he ought to have stopped. The train which preceded the excursion-train had no accident light behind it. It ought to have had one to show that an excursion-train, not a regular train, was following. The lamps were lit in the station signal and on the down-line auxiliary. He could not see the up-auxiliary from where he was standing. Before the accident he was driving the tender first, and he had a red light showing to Kentish-town and a white one towards Camden town. The ordinary train was a little behind time, and it was about five or six minutes after that the excursion-train passed.

George Cox and Charles Woodley, who were in the break-van of the excursion-train at the time of the accident, and were severely injured, deposed that the signals at the Kentish-town station stood at "All right," and that they did not see any red light on the ballast-train.

George Webster and Charles Cook, the guard and fireman of the ballast-train, gave similar testimony as to the occurrence and the state of the signals as that of Perkins, the driver. They were both positive that the danger signals were up while their train was being shunted.

George Whiteman had charge of the signals at the Hampstead station on the evening in question. The 6.30 regular train from Kew passed the Hampstead station at two minutes past seven o'clock. The train stopped at the Hampstead station for a short time, and afterwards the excursion train passed. He was informed that excursion-trains would pass on the line on the morning of the 2nd of September. Six did pass on the up-line about nine o'clock, and two in the afternoon. The practice on the line was to communicate by telegram between station and station as to the state of the lines and the passage of the trains. The telegrams applied to excursion-trains as well as to other trains. On the return of the excursion-trains witness received a message from the Finchley-road station at ten minutes past seven o'clock, to which he returned the telegram to the Finchley station

in the following words, "Train on the line." He then telegraphed the fact in the same words to the Kentish-town station. He did this about a minute after he received the telegram from the Finchley-road station that "an excursion-train was on the line." After the excursion passed the Hampstead station he telegraphed back to the Finchley station "Line clear." At the Kentish-town station they replied to his telegram "Train on the line." Kentish-town station had previously telegraphed "Line clear." That was after the regular train had passed, and about six or seven minutes before the excursion-train came up. There were two sidings in the neighbourhood of his station. If shunting was going on on the line, he would "block" both ways and telegraph both sides. He did not receive any telegraph from the Kentish-town station of the shunting going on there on the evening in question.

James Morse, station-master at Kew: On the 2nd of September the regular train left his station at 6.35, which was the proper time of departure. It did not carry any extra tailboard or light. He started the excursion (the train to which the accident occurred) just as the hand was on the stroke of seven. His instructions in reference to the excursion-train were sent to him in writing. They stated that on the 2nd of September special trains would leave Camden station at times uncertain, but that the first might be expected to start about 9 o'clock a.m., to return from Kew from 8 p.m. to 9.30. He started the train from Kew at seven on account of the pressure of people arriving at the station. He believed that when he started the excursion-train he told the guard that he was starting the train an hour earlier than his instructions, but he could not swear that he did. He did not telegraph the starting of the trains, because he had no telegraph nor other means of communication. He knew he was perfectly safe as far as Willesden, but he knew nothing of the line higher up than that. He did not take any other means for securing the excursion-train beyond his belief that he told the guard that he was starting him earlier than the time mentioned in his instructions. The starting of excursion-trains depended on circumstances. The influx of passengers on Sundays and Mondays was so great that he had carriages at Kew ready to start if necessary with passengers between the regular trains. If the excursion-train got from Kew to the place where the accident happened in seven minutes, it was an extraordinary speed to travel at. As a general rule he did not place tailboards on these special trains, because he was uncertain when he should have to start them. It was the practice to start trains irregularly, although there was no telegraph at witness's station. He cleared out the station by the 6.35 train. He had then no intention of starting the excursion-train at seven o'clock. He did not give the driver any instructions as to the rate at which he was to proceed. That was left to his own discretion. The driver and guard of the excursion-train were quite sober.

Joseph Reed, signalman at the points of the Kentish-town junction, between Kentish-town and Camden-town stations, said he was on duty on the evening of the 2nd of September. The ordinary train which left Kew at 6.35 passed him about six minutes past seven. It was late, and was telegraphed to him. He repeated the telegraph to Kentish-town, and gave the line was clear. He received a telegraph of an excursion-train from Willesden, but he did not notice the time. It was not his duty to book the time. The telegraph from Willesden was that the first special had left. That was about a minute before the passing of the regular train. At sixteen minutes past seven he received a telegram from Kentish-town that there was a train on the line. His telegram consisted of two ticks, which showed it was a passenger-train. He received no telegram of three ticks, indicating that there was a ballast-train on the line. About two or three minutes after he received the telegram from Kentish-town he heard the steam blowing off, but no train came by. About two minutes afterwards he got a telegram informing him that the line was blocked. He put the danger signal off for the ordinary train, but shut it up again directly it had passed. He had received information that the excursion-train would not pass till eight o'clock, but was not surprised at its coming shortly after seven. The driver of the excursion-engine could not see witness's danger signals till he had passed the Kentish-town station.

Alfred Martin Scott, 31, Oak-village, Kentish-town, gave the following account of the occurrence of the collision:—My house commands a full view of the line from within 100 yards of the Kentish-town station to the scene of the accident. On the 2nd of September I was in my garden, which commanded an uninterrupted view. I saw the excursion-train coming along between the quarter and twenty minutes past seven from Kentish-town station. It was distant I should think about 140 yards on the London side of the station when I first saw it. I noticed that it was going very fast, and immediately afterwards heard its whistle blow in a manner that I at once knew to be dangerous; for it seemed to me that the man had got hold of the handle, and was letting it blow as hard as he could. There were three distinct volleys of whistles, and the lapse of perhaps a moment between each. That was when it had got about thirty yards on, and in the middle of one of the volleys of whistles the break was applied and the wheels were skidded. I noticed no decrease in the speed at first, but afterwards it decreased very perceptibly—so much so that I thought it would come to a standstill before meeting with any danger. The steam was shut off then. I can't say whether it was on when I first saw the train or not. Directly after that I saw the engine of the passenger-train strike what appeared to me to be the middle of the ballast-train, and simultaneously I heard a rumbling noise. There was a discharge of steam, and smoke, and flame, and the engine disappeared on the side of the lane opposite to me, and the carriages following. At a perceptible interval I heard a noise like a man sitting on a bandbox, as if the carriages were breaking up. I did not notice the ballast-train until the collision, because my attention was fixed on the other. I do not recollect hearing any whistle until I saw the passenger-train. I cannot say whether the engine of the ballast-train whistled. I could not see the Kentish-town station signals from where I stood; and I am not clear as to how the down auxiliary stood, but I know its arm was up at seven o'clock. I saw it go up then as a train passed, and my brother saw it come down at ten minutes past. I noticed no up train passing before the collision. It was not sufficiently dark to require lamps when I saw the signal go up at seven o'clock. I should think the excursion-train was going thirty miles an hour when I first saw it, which, I think, is not faster than trains ordinarily go through stations.

William Gristwood, station-master at Kentish-town station, said he was on duty on Sept. 2. He was there when the ordinary 6.35 train from Kew passed, at from three to five minutes past seven. It stopped at the station for half a minute to a minute. It was telegraphed in the usual manner. In about ten minutes afterwards another train came up. He did not know of its arrival. As station-master, he ought to receive notice of excursion-trains, but he received no notice of that to which the accident occurred. He ought to have received information of the approach of the train from the office of Mr. Chubb, the general manager. He ought also to have received notice of the approaching train by that which preceded it carrying a tailboard. The main object of the tailboard was to give intimation to the platelayers and others along the line. Where there were telegraphs the station-masters were communicated with in that way. Rayner had been at the Kentish-town station eight months, and was a steady, careful person. He was the signalman on duty when the excursion-train passed. He believed that Rayner was a little deaf.

George Henry Fessey said he was a signalman and porter at the Kentish-town station, and was on duty on the 2nd of September. He went on duty at half-past eight. He took alternate duty with Rayner—one being early one day and the other the other. When the ordinary train passed through, his duty was to attend to the telegraphs and signals. He had received a telegraphic signal from Hampstead station about two minutes previously. He acknowledged the signal. Immediately the train left he left also. Before he left he had not had any signal from the driver of the ballast-engine for leave to come out. He gave no leave. He did not hear any whistle after leaving. The ballast-waggons were in the siding when he left. Up to the time he left no telegraphic signal had been received of a special or an excursion-train. When he left both the main and auxiliary signals were up. If they were up, no driver had a right to pass them. Rayner was a steady man, well fitted to perform his duties. The driver of the ballast-engine had no right to leave the siding unless he received permission from the signalman on duty. He said to Rayner before he left, "Before the ballast-train comes out, see that all your signals are up." The danger signal on the up line was up at that time. He lighted the main and Rayner lighted the auxiliary signal before he left that day.

Rayner was called, but did not answer to the summons.

Joseph Bridges, who was examined at the University Hospital, said: I was guard to the excursion-train on Sept. 2nd. I did not notice the auxiliary light at Kentish-town. Cox and Woodley rode in my van, and, on approaching the Kentish-town station, one of them looked out and said, "All right, Joe." I passed between them to look out, knowing that the preceding train was a stopping one, and supposing that we might overtake it. I looked out for a red tail light, but did not see one. I saw only a white light. I did not see a hand-lamp signal on the platform. I mean a man with a lamp. There was only one signal all the way from Kew, which was at Willesden, and I whistled it off. We shut off steam before we passed into the Kentish-town station. Before that we were going at thirty or thirty-five miles an hour. I think the engine whistled before entering the station. After we passed the station there was a danger whistle, but I can't say which engine it came from. I put the break on, but not in time to be of much service. Bull said, "Good God, Joe, there's something across our line in front!" I did not see a red signal. I only saw one light on the ballast-engine, and that was a white one.

George Scott, who is now living at Bow, said: I was driver of the excursion-engine on the 2nd of September. We left Kew about seven. I saw nothing of any moment till we reached Willesden, when I saw a danger signal, which I whistled off. On reaching Kentish-town I saw the arm was up, meaning "All right." The platform signal had a white light. I did not notice the down auxiliary. After passing the station I first noticed the ballast-train on the curve, but I could not tell whether it was on the up or

the down line. There was no red signal or red flag of any kind at the station. I turned off my steam before approaching the station. There was no motion in the ballast-train when I first saw it. I told my mate to put on the break as tight and sharp as he could. This was halfway between the station and the place where the collision took place. The danger whistle was put on at the same time. The ballast-engine was then within twenty yards of me. It was between light and dark. Then I saw the train was crossing the line, and the collision took place. I know nothing of what occurred after she struck the trucks. I think the ballast-engine was going tender foremost. No red lights were shown from the ballast-engine nor elsewhere. My speed was twenty miles per hour before I slackened it on approaching the station, as is usual on going down hill.

Henry Rayner, the signalman, was then again called, and now answered. After being duly cautioned, he said: I am a porter, and on the 2nd of September I was on duty at Kentish-town station. After the arrival of the 6.35 train from Kew, Fessey, the other porter, went off duty. I can't remember whether I telephoned to the Hampstead station after the departure of that train "Line clear," but I know that such a telegram was sent. I can't remember who sent it, but I believe Fessey had not left the station when it was sent. His usual time is seven o'clock, but he never leaves till that train has started, and that night the train was late. I was lighting the lamps when he left, and while I was doing so he might telegraph back "Line clear" for what I know. I am certain I did not send the telegraph. It was my duty to attend to the telegraph after he left. I don't remember receiving any communication from the driver of the ballast-train as to coming out. I did not answer him by giving him leave to come out. I don't remember giving him leave to come out of the siding. The train came out of the siding after the excursion-train had passed. She did not come out of the station till then. It drew out almost directly the train had passed. I did not see it draw out, but I saw it on the line. The danger signal was already on at the platform station for the up line, and I did not take it down after the up train had left. It is usual to put the up auxiliary danger signal on when the train has passed through the station. That was not taken down. I continued them both up because I had not got "Line clear" from the next station—the Kentish-town Junction. The ballast-train was on the crossing when I saw it, but we can't tell from the station what line it is on. It was out of the siding. If the ballast-train had left the siding without instructions, it would have been my duty as signalman to have taken some notice of it. I cannot say that I did take any notice of it. I did nothing to protect the up line, because it was protected before my mate went; but I put down the danger signal on the down line, to allow the ballast-train to proceed to Hampstead. I got a telegram from Kentish-town Junction, "Line clear," about ten minutes past seven, and answered it. I got a communication from the Hampstead station of the approaching excursion-train between twelve and fifteen minutes after seven. I acknowledged that also, and after the excursion-train had passed me I sent it on to Kentish-town Junction, by telegraphing "Train on line." That was not acknowledged. Before there was time to get an answer the accident had occurred. I did not remove the up danger signals at all, neither the main nor the auxiliary. I never touched the danger signals at all after Fessey left. My hearing is not very good. I did not hear the excursion-train whistle as she was coming through the station, nor did I hear the ballast-train whistle. If they had whistled I dare say I could have heard them. I made a statement to the company's officers on the night of the accident, and another next morning, which were taken down in writing. I cannot say it was the same as the one I am making now. It may be different. I did not know what I was saying or doing at that time, I was so furried; and I do not remember what I said. The statement I am now making is the true one, whatever I may have said before. I can't remember that I said I had taken off the signals and put them on again when the train had passed. If I said so it was not true. If I said I took the signals off and put them on again, that was the difference between my statement then and now. I never touched the signals, and I don't remember saying that not more than a few seconds elapsed between my taking off the danger signals and putting them on again. I might have said so, but I did not take the danger signals down at all if I did say so. I did not tell anybody that I took off the signals and put them on again, but put them on too late. I can't remember whether I said so or not. I was going to pull the auxiliary danger signal off, but did not, as the excursion-train had passed it, and I thought the ballast-train had time to get out of the way. My wages are 14s. a week, and my hours fifteen and a half one day, and ten the other. I am porter, and have to attend to passengers and their luggage, to the telegraph as well, and to signals when Fessey is gone to his meals. In further examination, the witness stated that he had intended to take down the danger signals, and went out of his hut for that purpose, as he thought there was time for the ballast-train to get out of the way; but that he did not do so, as the collision took place before he had time.

This was the last witness examined, and the Coroner having summed up the evidence and pointed out its bearings as regarded the several parties concerned, as well as points of agreement and difference, the jury retired, and, after an absence of an hour and three-quarters, returned the following verdict:—"The jury regret that there is no alternative, from the weight of evidence, but to return a verdict of 'Guilty' against Rayner. At the same time they cannot separate without expressing a strong opinion that the directors and managers are much to be censured in not employing more experienced persons to fill such important situations as that of signalmen. It is highly improper for a station-master to start any special train, either before or after the specified time of his instructions from the secretary of his railway; and that when the line is obstructed, by shunting or otherwise, it should be blocked by telegraph as well as by out-door signal."

This being equivalent to a verdict of "Manslaughter" against Rayner, the Coroner said he would issue a warrant for his apprehension. On being called on, it was found that Rayner had disappeared, and the warrant was issued accordingly, the Coroner intimating his intention to take bail. This closed the proceedings so far.

ACCIDENT AT THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY.—An alarming accident occurred on Saturday at the underground railway now being constructed in London, which, although unattended by any fatality, placed in imminent jeopardy the lives of some twenty men. At the Clerkenwell end of New Victoria-street there is a shaft of fifty-five feet depth, from the bottom of which the tunnelling is prosecuted. Whilst the men, bricklayers and others, were at work in the tunnel one of the main water-pipes on the surface was being removed to facilitate operations, when the pipe burst and the water poured down the shaft. Of course such a stream of water must very speedily have filled both tunnel and shaft, from which there was no outlet for it, and the appliances for withdrawing the poor fellows from their perilous situation were hardly fitted for such an emergency. By strenuous exertions, however, the last instalment of the terror-stricken men was raised to the top just as the water had filled the excavation to such a height that in one minute more escape would have been impossible.

FATAL OCCURRENCE.—For some weeks past several of the boats on the Grand Junction Canal have been propelled by steam instead of being drawn by horses, and, with proper adaptations of the tunnels, &c., there is no doubt that the difficulties hitherto experienced in navigating canals with steam-boats are in a fair way of being overcome. There are several tunnels on the canal, one of them being at Agar-town, and another—the one in which the occurrence happened which we are about to detail—being close to the Bilsworth station on the London and North-Western Railway. The canal tunnels are made of brick, and are little, if at all, larger than a sewer. The tunnels are so constructed that horse-power is of no use, previous to the introduction of steam the boats being propelled by a process called "legging." The process is this:—A board is placed out on either side of the boat, and on each board lies a man, who places his feet against the wall of the tunnel and thus pushes the boat along. This system still prevails on boats to which the steam-engine has not yet been applied, and, as the labour of thus "legging" the boat along is both arduous and disagreeable, the steam-engine is welcomed as a very agreeable substitute. The engine, however, is not without its disadvantages; for, as the tunnels are long, and, as we have said, no longer than sewers, the boatmen are half-stifled by the volume of carbon that is emitted from the low funnel, coal being burnt instead of coke. On Friday night two steam-boats entered the tunnel, and before they again emerged from it the people in them were rendered insensible by the fumes from the engines, two of the men being quite dead, one of them having fallen over-board; some others were fearfully burnt by falling, while insensible, on the engine. The tunnel is a mile or more in length, and has but one shaft in it, that one shaft, we are informed, being covered over.

PAPER FROM WOOD.—It is said that a French lady has succeeded in manufacturing excellent paper from wood, and at a price much lower than that made from rags. Her method consists chiefly in the use of a new kind of machinery for reducing the wood to fine fibres, which are afterwards treated with the alkalis and acids necessary to reduce them to pulp, and the composition is finally bleached by the action of chlorine. It is the unanimous opinion of the engravers and lithographers who have used it that paper made according to this method from wood, and which costs only 400f. (£16) per ton, is quite equal to the China paper, which costs 535f. (£214) per ton. It is expected that experiments upon a larger scale will confirm the results already obtained.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

HYDROPHOBIA.—A melancholy case of death from hydrophobia occurred lately at Melincourt (Eure). The Abbé Goater, Curé of that parish, was bitten about five weeks since by a dog which he was caressing, and the animal immediately afterwards exhibited all the symptoms of madness. Instead of having the wound properly cauterised the Curé applied to a quack, who administered some nostrum which he vaunted as a certain cure for the bite of a mad dog. The Abbé felt no evil results till the 25th ult., when the first signs of the fatal disease made their appearance, and after several days of horrible suffering he breathed his last.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur*, in its non-official department, publishes the following in reference to the pamphlet on Rome:—"The *Times* and other foreign journals, alluding to a recent pamphlet, entitled 'The Emperor, Rome, and the King of Italy,' have made observations and suppositions totally devoid of foundation, to which the Government gives the most formal denial." Many conjectures are set afloat as to the authorship of the pamphlet, none of which are worthy of much credit. One rumour is that the brochure had at least the inspiration of Count Vimercati, one of the most active agents of the Cabinet of Turin; that its sentiments are favoured and shared by Count Arese, and are therefore conjectured not to be very unacceptable to the Emperor of the French. Another story makes it the work of a provincial journalist; and the *Union*, the especial organ of Rome, not only attacks its facts and arguments, but falls foul of the style of the pamphlet, which it characterises as a mere vulgar patois.

The *Patrie* says:—"We are authorised to declare that all the Powers, without exception, have acknowledged the truth of the allegations made by the Roman Government in protesting against the assertions contained in the last circular note of Baron Ricasoli." And the *Pays* denies the existence of any note of Earl Russell promising Italy the support of England in case of a disagreement with France.

The Paris papers assert that an interview between the King of Prussia and the Emperor will take place at Compiègne on the 2nd of October next.

The *Pays* announces that an increase in the artillery and the marine will shortly take place.

The *Constitutionnel*, in an article signed by the secretary, M. Boniface, explains the mission assumed by the French authorities in the Papal States, which, it says, is to make the integrity of the territory of the Holy See respected, and to maintain the neutrality of that territory by barring the frontier to the passage of any armed band.

SPAIN.

The Madrid journals publish news from Havannah to the 10th ult., announcing that General Serrano had been received with enthusiasm; and assert that the principal difficulties in the way of the reorganisation of San Domingo have been removed. The *Correspondencia Autógrafa* says:—"Spain, in conjunction with England and France, will intervene in Mexico by sending troops into that country from Cuba."

ITALY.

General Pettinengo, the Lieutenant of Sicily, has left for Palermo. The Chevalier Joseph Launoy, representative of Belgium at the Court of the King of Italy, is dead.

The Emperor of the Brazils has formally acknowledged the King of Italy.

The *Opinione* of Turin says that the dispatch of fresh troops to Naples is solely caused by the fatigue which the troops now at Naples have to undergo, and not by the increase of brigandage, which is almost entirely eradicated.

The *Turin Official Gazette* of the 6th inst. contains the nominations of General della Rovere as Minister of War and General Pettinengo as Lieutenant of Sicily.

The *Opinione* replies to recent articles in the *Constitutionnel* and the *Giornale di Roma* on the allegations of Baron Ricasoli. The *Opinione* adds that Bavarians, Spaniards, and Irishmen are among the brigands in Naples. The same paper publishes another article refuting the assertions of the *Patrie* in regard to the attitude of France in Italy. It says:—"An independent policy is a necessity for France and Italy, and will be a guarantee of their alliance. Italy wishes to possess Rome; but it is not necessary to increase the garrison of Rome in order to prevent us from going there. A strong garrison can only be necessary to defend the Pope against his own subjects."

It is anticipated that by the time the King of Italy arrives at Naples General Cialdini will have succeeded in entirely suppressing the brigands, and that his Majesty will be able to inaugurate his residence at the Neapolitan capital by granting an extensive amnesty.

It is said that the recent crossing of the Papal frontier by the Italian troops in pursuit of the Bourbonist brigands who had taken refuge in the Legations has led to the French representative demanding explanations from the Cabinet at Turin. Baron Ricasoli replied that the proceeding was unauthorised by him; it was very much to be regretted; it should not occur again, and so forth.

The *Pungolo* publishes news from the frontier of Naples, asserting that a band of 400 brigands had set out from Velletri, in the direction of the province of Terra di Lavoro. The usual statements as to the suppression of brigandage and the submission of brigand chiefs appear in the Italian papers. We are almost tired of repeating these assertions, and only wish we and Naples were finally quit of brigands and their instigators. The most notable report on this point is that of a grand brigand hunt under General Cialdini in the neighbourhood of Madalona, in which the destruction of these pests is said to have been on a large scale. A central committee, under the auspices of Counts Trani and Trapani, the uncle and brother of the late King of Naples, is asserted to exist in Rome, the object of which is to organise and dispatch reactionary bands into Naples. The details of the rules and organisation of this conspiracy are given, together with the names of many of the subordinate agents. The whole statement has a very circumstantial air, and if such an organisation really exists, it only proves what was well known before—that brigandage in Naples will never cease so long as Rome remains in the hands of its present possessors.

The *Giornale di Roma* of the 7th instant, in its official part, declares the passage relative to Rome in Baron Ricasoli's note to be calumnious, and that it is unworthy of the dignity of the Holy See to make any reply demonstrating the falsity of the assertions contained therein. The *Giornale* continues:—"The Pontifical Government has made an appeal to the representatives of the foreign Powers at Rome, and to the loyalty of the French army, to testify to the falsity of the insinuations contained in Baron Ricasoli's note."

General Goyon it is asserted, has given orders that any attempt at invasion by Piedmontese of the localities occupied by the French troops shall be repulsed by force.

The national fete at Naples on the 7th in commemoration of Garibaldi's entry into the city was a splendid affair. Great numbers of citizens were present. The city was illuminated, and universal joy prevailed. Cheers were given for the King and for Garibaldi. Perfect order prevailed. The anniversary has also been celebrated at Milan, Genoa, and elsewhere, with much enthusiasm, but without disorder.

The Central Venetian Congregation have addressed the Emperor of Austria praying for a diminution of the insupportable burden of the military billeting system, to which 700 communes had been subjected, instead of 36, as was originally ordered. The address also states that the demands of the military were very exorbitant, and that several communal authorities had been compelled to tender their resignation.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor received the deputation bearing the Address of the Lower House of the Reichsrath on the 8th. His Majesty said in his reply:—"The Address to which I have just listened strengthens my glad conviction that you place confidence in me, who myself am faithful to the Constitution. The Lower House, in entirely adopting my principle that the provinces should possess legal self-government, but that they should be bound together in a natural unity, has likewise conceived that such a government shall only be limited by a

conscientious fulfilment of the common duties towards a powerful and united Monarchy. To carry out these principles against those who do not respect them is certainly a necessity, which I hope, however, to confine within the narrowest possible limits. The result will prove the overpowering might of the truth and justice of the principle which I have stated."

The elections to the Diet in the communes of the district of Istria have resulted favourably to the Government.

The Paris journals publish a despatch from Vienna stating that the Archduke Regnier has accepted the mission of travelling through Hungary in order to communicate to the Emperor the wishes of the majority of the population.

HUNGARY.

A letter from Pesth of the 6th inst. gives an outline of the instructions which the Government commissioners have received from the Chancellor of Hungary. Each Commissioner is furnished with authority to exact obedience under pain of legal punishment. This order will be addressed to the jurisdictions where these have not been suppressed; elsewhere to the principal functionaries, who, on their responsibility, will be held bound to make known the contents of the requisition to the employés. The commissioners are enjoined to act energetically and without regard to personal considerations, but in such a way as to give no offence to the sentiment of equity in the public mind, and to gain over reasonable men who desire the re-establishment of legal order. They are to avoid all superfluous rigour. On the other hand, the commissioners are strictly bound to maintain the respect due to their King, and the full authority of his Majesty.

When it becomes the duty of the commissioner to institute criminal proceedings in any case, he is to cite before him the persons accused and the witnesses. He discharges disobedient functionaries, includes them in the indictment, and if necessary replaces them by other appointments. In case of need he may assume the administrative direction of the Comitat. If the persons accused or the witnesses refuse to appear he may employ force, but only in case of necessity. The eighth article of these instructions justifies the measures laid down in those that precede. In it we read:—"The commissioner of the King will declare on each occasion that his Apostolic Majesty has no intention of abolishing the constitutional institutions or of aiming a blow at the autonomy of Hungary in the administration and the Government."

Baron Forgach, Count Apponyi, and other Hungarian magnates, are continually conferring together with the view of rendering a speedy convocation of the Hungarian Diet possible.

CRACOW.

A Cracow letter says:—"Austria has confiscated property belonging to the municipality of Cracow; she has confiscated Church property, and she has not scrupled to convert three of the most ancient and interesting chapels (the Italian Chapel, the Goldsmiths' Chapel, and the chapel of the musicians in the Franciscan convent) into tobacco depots. The castle, the residence of the ancient Polish Kings, has been turned into a barrack, the staircases remodelled, the graceful characteristic architecture of the windows destroyed, the painted walls whitewashed. The Polish crowns, with all the State jewellery that could be laid hands upon, were of course stolen long ago. The State rooms are now filled with soldiers. Their trousers and stockings hang out of the palace windows, and the courtyards swarm with troops to such an extent that a pestilential odour pervades the whole place, and renders it impossible to pass through the castle to the cathedral which adjoins it, and to which, fortunately, there is another entrance. In the cathedral, together in one vault, lie the bodies of John Sobieski, Kosciusko, and Poniatowski—the two latter placed there during Cracow's brief existence as a Republic. The saviour of Vienna, the leader of the insurrection of Cracow, the hero of the battle of Leipsic, are all now in the hands of the Austrians."

POLAND.

Saturday being the anniversary of the coronation of the Emperor Alexander, a Te Deum was sung in the Catholic cathedral. The suffragan Bishop officiated. Order prevailed in all the churches. No general illumination took place at Kalisch in celebration of the anniversary of the Emperor's coronation. The people smashed the windows of the few houses that were illuminated, and hissed the troops sent to disperse them. The military acted with great violence, beating and even robbing the people. Many persons were arrested, among whom are several of the principal citizens. Some have since been set at liberty, but forty are still in prison. A deputation of citizens has left for Warsaw.

The *Gazette des Postes* of Posen says that nearly two hundred ladies of the upper and middle classes have left that city, in one party, to walk on foot, as pilgrims, to Czenstochau, near Warsaw, there to implore the intercession of the Virgin in favour of Poland. The place is more than sixty leagues distant from Posen; and many of the lady-pilgrims had obtained ecclesiastical permission to be followed by their carriages, to be used if their strength should fail.

TURKEY AND MONTENEGRO.

Kiprili Pacha has been named Governor of Adrianople.

About 6000 Montenegrins crossed the frontier on the 3rd, and occupied the town of Vanina, on the Lake of Scutari. They were joined by the inhabitants. The Turkish garrison refused to surrender, and, in order not to fall into the hands of the Montenegrins, blew up the tower and perished in the explosion. It is stated that the Montenegrins retired from Vanina on the 6th, that fresh Turkish troops had arrived at Scutari, and that they had occupied the town of Zubzi. Dervish Pacha, with 5000 Turkish troops, crossed the Montenegrin frontier on the 4th inst., and Omer Pacha was preparing to follow with another division.

AMERICA.

The news from America is not of stirring interest. No fresh movements of the Federal army are reported. An affair of pickets had, however, occurred, in which the 38th New York Volunteers had a brush with a superior force of the enemy—according to the New York papers the enemy is always in superior force. A despatch via Cincinnati states that a detachment of General Rosencranz's army under Colonel Tyler had been surrounded and "whipped" by a Confederate force under General Floyd at Summersville, Western Virginia. In this affair fifteen Federalists were killed and about forty wounded. A large number of the 7th Ohio Regiment were scattered during the fight, and are missing, but it was hoped that most of them would escape. Another action had taken place in Missouri; Colonel Dougherty, with 300 Unionist troops, having attacked a detachment of Confederates amounting to 1200 men at Charleston, and defeated them with the loss of forty killed and seventeen prisoners.

Meanwhile General McClellan, the Commander-in-Chief of the United States' army on the Potomac, is earnestly and actively engaged in bringing it to such a state of efficiency that it will shortly be in a condition to take the field and renew offensive operations against the South.

A powerful naval armament, including numerous gun-boats, manned by 4000 men, and mounting 100 guns, quitted Old Point on the 26th ult., but its destination was kept a profound secret. The flotilla is under the orders of Commodore Stringham, United States' Navy—an ominous name for Confederates caught napping. The land forces are commanded by General Butler.

A mutiny had occurred in the 21st Buffalo Regiment, and forty of the men had been imprisoned in Fort Tortugas. Symptoms of insubordination had exhibited themselves in the New York 12th and 21st Regiments. The Secession party in Kentucky is making great efforts, and is reported to be rapidly gaining ground. The Kentucky commissioners have reported that President Lincoln is willing to await the action

of the Kentucky Legislature before forcing the State to declare its position.

The latest advices from Fairfax Courthouse report that the Confederates had withdrawn precipitately a mile beyond that post, leaving only the pickets in the village; also, that the rebels are being increased at Leesburg, where they have already several thousand, supported by artillery. It was said Beauregard had been reinforced by 15,000 or 20,000 men since the battle of Bull Run.

According to advices from St. Louis, General McCulloch, with a body of Confederate cavalry 1000 strong, pursued General Siegel a few days after the battle of Springfield, but after one day's march, learning that Gen. Siegel had been reinforced, he gave up pursuit, and subsequently marched upon Jefferson City at the head of 10,000 men.

General Price's official report of the battle near Springfield says that the Missouri forces in that engagement numbered 5221, of which 153 were killed and 517 wounded. General Pierce makes no mention of General McCulloch's forces in the battle. The entire Confederate army was ordered to move forward on General Lyon in four columns at nine o'clock on the evening previous to the battle, so as to surround Springfield, and begin a simultaneous attack; but the order was countermanded, owing to the darkness of the night and a threatened storm.

Martial law has been proclaimed in Missouri. The slaves of insurrectionists in that State are to be freed. A despatch, dated Washington, the 22nd, states that a slave insurrection had occurred in Orange County, Virginia, instigated by a negro preacher. Several negroes were hung.

Advices from Texas state that Fort Stanton has been abandoned and fired by the Union forces.

Arrests of suspected Secessionists continue; and amongst the latest we observe the name of Miss Windle, a lady of some eminence in American literary circles. We once more hear of the privates Sumter and Jeff Davis. Of the former we understand that, in humble imitation of the gallant Broke when he fought the Shannon against the Chesapeake, its Captain lately sent a similar challenge to the commander of the United States' ship-of-war Keystone State to meet and have a fight on the high seas. Seeing that the event did not come off, it may be presumed that the Yankee Captain respectfully declined the invitation, if it were given at all. The new arrangements with regard to passports in the United States do not apply to individuals travelling between the States and Canada, and the British possessions in the North. The Federal authorities are prosecuting a razza upon the Secession journals, and detectives accompany every train that leaves New York, and employ themselves on the journey in overhauling the carpet-bags and packages of unhappy travellers. Upon the return of the district attorney to the city a Draconic, or rather Napoleonic, code is likely to be enforced against offending editors with unmixed severity.

The *Boston Traveller* has a letter from Salisbury, North Carolina, which states that four members to the United States' Congress have been elected in that State. The writer states that the people of North Carolina are fast throwing off the Secession yoke, and that there is a Union League throughout the State which embraces many thousands of men, and to them is attributed the reaction which is now taking place.

Not over half of the 25,000 additional volunteers called for by the recent proclamation of the Governor of New York State have as yet enlisted.

Two vessels have arrived at Matanzas from Charlestown, having succeeded in running the blockade.

The only other item of American intelligence of any importance—and to this country it is of great importance—is the statement that a large quantity of cotton has arrived at New York from Providence for shipment to Europe; the majority of the factories at Lowell, the Manchester of America, being now closed.

A PARISIAN PRACTICAL JOKE.

The *Pays* tells the following tale of the adventures, sorrows, sufferings, and happy deliverance of a French provincial *gobe-mouche*:

As a police patrol was, two nights back, going its rounds in the neighbourhood of the Pantheon, it found a man, attired in a most extraordinary way, lying on a stone bench at a porte-cochere. His hair had been covered with some clammy substance, over which copper filings had been sprinkled, so that it was stiff and brilliant. Feathers had been stuck in it to form a sort of diadem. His face was daubed with paint of different colours. He had on a necklace formed of corks cut round and covered with gilt paper. His shirt was worn over his clothes, and was ornamented with arabesques in red paint. His trousers were raised so as to leave his legs bare, and the legs, as also his neck and hands, were painted of a chocolate colour. Near him was a bundle containing his stockings, cravat, waistcoat, &c. He was fast asleep, and, on being awakened, manifested the greatest astonishment at finding himself in such a place and in such a guise.

Being taken to the nearest guardhouse and questioned, he stated he was a well-to-do farmer in the department of the Aisne, and had long been tormented with a desire to see Paris. Having collected a sum of money, he had come to the capital for the Emperor's sake, and remained there ever since. The day before he was found so strangely accoutred he went to the Jardin des Plantes, and sat down on a bench to rest himself. Shortly after a young man of gentlemanly appearance, who was reading a book, seated himself by his side. They got into conversation, and he related to the young man what he had seen in Paris, but expressed great regret that he had not been able to fall in with the Siamese Ambassador. "How lucky it is we have met!" cried the young man. "The Ambassador is this very evening to visit a naval surgeon of my acquaintance who cured their Queen of the whooping-cough, and if you like I will take you to his house." The farmer at first hesitated to accept the stranger's offer, but the latter pressed him so courteously that he consented. An appointment to meet in the evening in the Place du Pantheon was made, and both the farmer and the young man were punctual. The latter led the countryman up and down several obscure streets, and then entered a house in which there was no concierge. In one apartment to which he was introduced the farmer found several young men drinking and smoking, and he was induced to drink with them. After a while he was shown through a hole in a door several persons, male and female, dressed in strange costumes, and was told that they were the Ambassadors and their wives, but that he could not be admitted to them unless he would consent to have certain changes made in his dress. He at first refused, but at last, after being well plied with wine, submitted. His toilet having been completed he was introduced to the Ambassadors. The courteously entered into a conversation with him through an interpreter, and then insisted that he should partake of their refreshments. What he ate, he said, was very strange, and what he drank still more so. At last the Ambassador notified that they were so pleased with him that they would decorate him with the order of the White Elephant; but they said that in accordance with the custom of their country he must first chase one of them down stairs, and succeed in catching him. He made no objection, and one of the Ambassadors rushed down stairs, and the farmer pursued. But on reaching the bottom the outer door was suddenly opened, and he was pushed out; the door was then closed on him, and a moment after a bundle containing the articles of dress he had taken off was dropped from a window. He knocked loudly at the door, but received no reply. He therefore went away, and walked about until overcome with fatigue and the fumes of drink, he sat down to rest. He soon fell asleep, and remained sleeping until found by the police.

After he told this singular story he was made to count his money. He said that not a sou had been taken from him. It was thus clear that he had only been made the victim of a practical hoax, and it is thought likely that the perpetrators of it were students.

POPULATION OF PARIS.—The following is the movement of the population of Paris and of the department of the Seine, since the quinquennial census of 1856, as shown by that which has just taken place. The population of enlarged Paris, divided into twenty arrondissements and eighty quarters, now amounts to 1,696,000, being 521,634 more than it was in the twelve arrondissements in 1856. In the department of the Seine the number is now 1,953,000, being an increase since 1856 of 225,551.

A NEW ISLAND IN THE CASPIAN SEA.—The Russian journals announce that a remarkable geological phenomenon has just occurred in the Caspian Sea, an island having risen from the waters near Baku, on the western coast. The captain of the schooner Turkmen, who first discovered it, states that, except the upper crust, the soil of this new island was quite moist and very warm, which shows that it was of very recent formation. It is eighteen feet above the level of the water, and twelve miles from the island of Swine.

VIRGINIAN IRREGULARS
FROM THE ALLEGHANIES.

HITHERTO we have heard little of the regular backwoods element in the armies either of North or South America, and yet it seems difficult to believe that there should not be some representatives of the men who were the rough pioneers of civilisation, and learned courage and endurance by solitary battling with Nature in her wildest moods. The Virginian irregulars, however, seem in appearance very nearly to our notions of those free spirits who feared neither "painter, grizzly bear, nor Injun," and could earn subsistence with their knife, hatchet, and rifle from the forests and boundless prairies of aboriginal America. It might well be feared that, but for their small number, these men would be terrible adversaries against the North, since, although they may be undisciplined, they are eminently calculated to wage an irregular warfare which, by its guerrilla character, would be especially dangerous to advanced troops.

ADMISSION OF THE
SULTAN'S SON INTO THE
TURKISH IMPERIAL GUARD.

It is obvious from the course adopted by Abdul Aziz that he is aware of the pernicious influence exercised upon the young men who are likely to occupy prominent positions in the State by the education formerly prescribed by Mohammedan etiquette. Above all, it is certain that the son of the Sultan, who, surrounded by the vitiated atmosphere of a Court where in his earliest years he is almost confined to the Seraglio, is never likely to develop the qualities which would more naturally belong to a childhood differently trained. The new Sultan has on these accounts determined that his little son shall not be exposed to an influence which would, perhaps, render him as inefficient as his late uncle, and, following the example of the nations of the West, has already commenced a military career for the infant Prince by enrolling him in the Turkish Imperial Guard. Accordingly, by the orders of the Sultan (transmitted through the Seraskier), Darboha-Reschid

Pacha, Commandant of the Corps-d'Armée of Constantinople, the Generals of Division, Reschid Pacha, President of the Council of the Imperial Guard; Dervich Pacha, Ambassador from the Porte to St. Petersburg; Mehmet Sadyk Pacha, commander of the Turkish Cossacks and dragoons (the Christian troops of the Sultan), waited for the arrival of the young Prince in the infantry quarters at Matchka, where the ceremony was to take place, and remained under arms for his reception.

The little fellow, who is not five years old, was dressed in the

grove of fig and palm trees, lazily smoking our cigarettes, and admiring the various costumes of the market people—now a swarthy Spaniard, on a tall horse, with embroidered jacket flung picturesquely on his shoulder, blue shirt, white trousers, open half-way up the leg, with brass buttons, naked feet, with a curious kind of rush sandal now a gigantic negro woman, with an enormous basket of curious bread in ring and halfmoon shapes, would come trudging along; now a string of miserable little donkeys, writhing under most cruel torture, would flinch by,



ALLEGHANY IRREGULARS.

uniform of a common soldier; and the Seraskier, on arriving in front of the line of troops, took him in his arms and at once presented him to the corps, amidst the shouts and acclamations of the men. The secretary of the Seraskierat has inscribed the name of the Prince Youssouf-Izzedin upon the register of the first company of the first regiment of Chasseurs of the Guard. Of course, a substitute is provided, the young Prince having received the rank of Sergeant-Major.

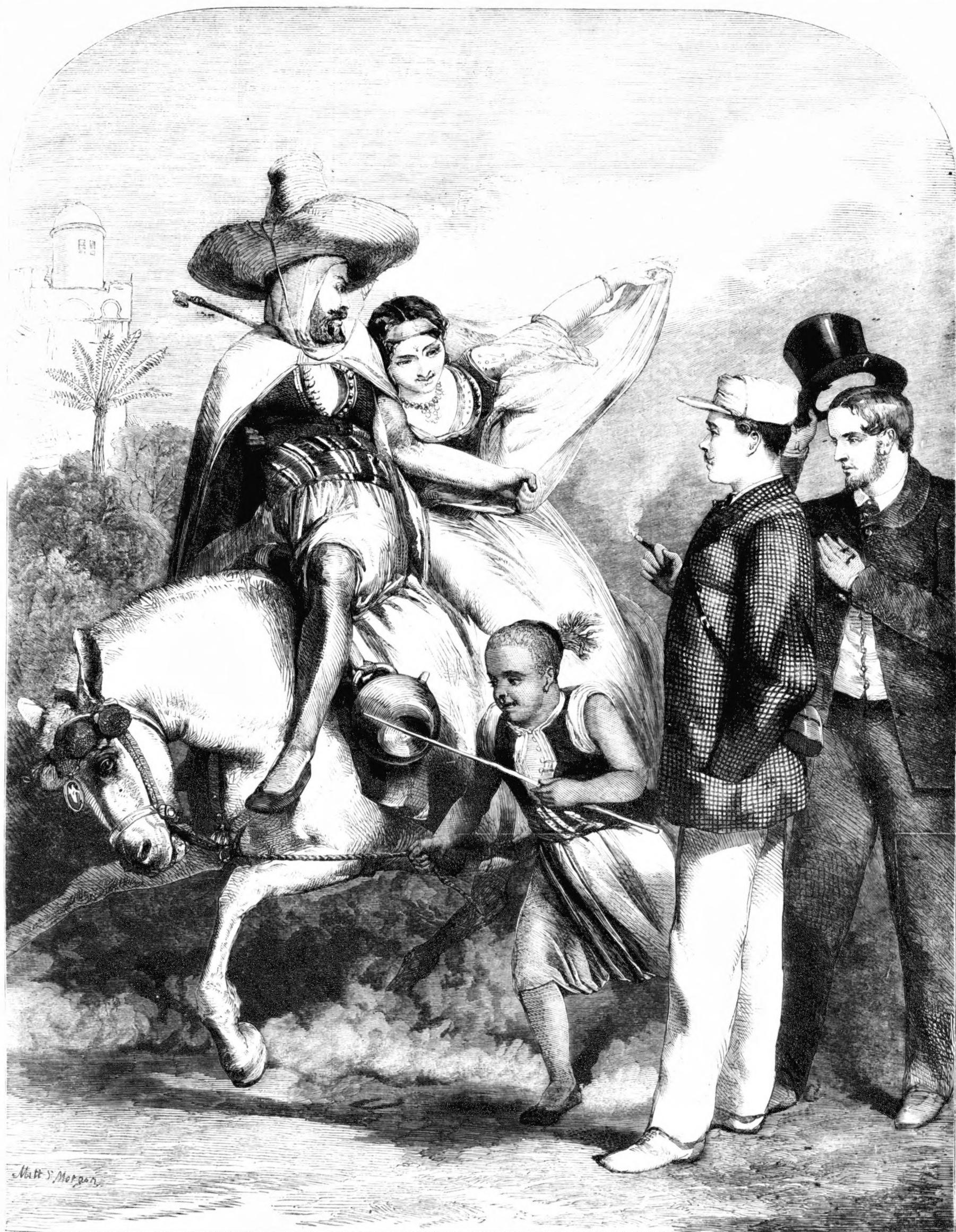
Namik Pacha, on taking his Imperial Highness by the hand, delivered a speech full of energy and patriotism, which was responded to vigorously by the troops, who were enthusiastic in their reception of the youthful representative who has descended from a line which has produced many brave champions of the Mohammedan cause.

DIGNITY AND MISCHIEF

AUGUST 31st.—This morning, before the excessive heat of the day commenced, we took a stroll in a new direction out of the town of Algiers, up the road to the Maison Carrée, passing in our way some of the most superb views of Algiers and the Mediterranean; but the chief feature of the morning's ramble was our having our first sight of a Moorish girl's face, for the women of Algiers are quite as particular, or even more so, on that score, than those of Turkey, and even to-day we had our treat more from a spirit of mischief than anything else. We were slowly wending our way in the shadow of a



ADMISSION OF THE SON OF THE SULTAN INTO THE TURKISH IMPERIAL GUARD.



DIGNITY AND MISCHIEF: AN INCIDENT OF ALGERIAN TRAVEL

heavily laden with oranges from the famous Bleda; and now and then a fine picturesque Arab, with a skin on his back full of milk; but, last of all—our best treat. There was a slight toll of the market people; the dust had somewhat gone down, when my friend suddenly exclaimed, "Look what we have now!" We turned, and trotting up to us on a white shaggy horse was an old Arab, with his enormous straw hat on, and behind him a graceful little girl, about seventeen, was clinging round his waist. The effect of the whole thing was splendid: the brilliant

colour of the horse's trappings, the swarthy complexion of the Arab, with his grizzly beard and brown arms, and the delicate, elegant little creature seated behind him. We were quite struck with admiration. But what was our extreme astonishment when, as she passed us, the spirit of mischief, and perhaps a little vanity, prompted her to unloose her face-covering and, as they went trotting by, give us a view of as fine a formed face and pair of eyes as we could well imagine? It was but a flash, and they were gone; but, quick as the action was, it was observed by the old Arab, who

turned such an angry look of offended dignity upon her and us that for a time we rather dreaded what the young coquette might get when she arrived at her destination. They were soon lost in a cloud of dust, and left us to speculate thus:—"I say, Fred, what relation do you think she is to the old Dignity?" "Well, it is difficult to say. I hope she's not his wife, that's all." We then turned to return, perhaps hoping we should again see the young beauty; but, alas! we were doomed to disappointment, for we arrived at our hotel, although we loitered hours on the way, without a sign of her

THE CONFLICT IN AMERICA.

The Times this week publishes a fresh letter from Mr. Russell, its special correspondent in America, from which the following are extracts:

VOLUNTEERS—NORTH AND SOUTH.

It is not to be supposed for one moment that the American people cannot furnish the materials of as fine an army as the world could produce. No one questions the gallantry of their race. They combine the "furia Francese" with the cool courage of the Anglo-Saxon. But in their contests they have been made to feel that no dependence can be placed on mere personal bravery, in which most men are equal in a military sense, as spoken of by Jomini and other writers, and that bravery *plus* discipline cannot ever fail to prove more than an equation for the same quality *minus* discipline. The history of their great struggle with England is full of examples of panics and flights alternating with desperate and steady fighting. The Connecticut Militia were now to blame; at another time it was the troops of North Carolina; again it was the men of Pennsylvania who fled; and Washington had once, at least, the mortification of seeing the troops of the latter State march off home on the eve of a fight, and from the face of an enemy, just as McDowell was abandoned by the men of the 4th Pennsylvanian Regiment and the gunners and officers of various batteries on the night and morning preceding Bull Run. At a later period the Races of Bladensburg took place; and in the Mexican War more than once the volunteers justified by their conduct the exclamation of an officer of rank who said to me, "For my sins I commanded volunteers in Mexico, and—God help me!—I shall have to do it again." It is the same story all over the world when civilians are called into action without military discipline. There can be no dependence placed on ill-drilled and badly-officered volunteers in line of battle. Sedgmoor, Vinegar-hill, Culloden, and the early fights of the French Revolutionists on the frontier tell the same story, without disparagement to Englishman, Irishman, Scotchman, or Frenchman.

But it will be said the South ought to show the influence of the same defects as the North. The defects do not exist in anything like the same degree. The Southern armies contain a larger proportion of men who have been accustomed to command and to obey than the Northern armies. They are under better discipline, because they fight with more animosity, and they have been more habituated to military life. The social distinctions which exist in the South between rich and poor, between landed proprietors and their dependents, extend their influences to the field. No Southern company would, if it could, elect a mere bourgeois, a shopkeeper, or the keeper of a house of ill-fame, to be an officer. There are some Southern States, such as South Carolina, which have been drilling their militia for years, and in others the fear of servile insurrection has created military organisations of infantry and cavalry which are now in the service of the Confederates, fighting *con amore* against the Abolitionists. They are more used to arms than the bulk of the Northern populations, excepting those of the Western States. There is no "slapping on the back" of officers by privates, such as I have seen in Northern regiments in the streets. The John Brown raid gave an impulse to all the military systems of the South, and prepared them for this conflict. In Southern towns and counties there exists a system of patrols and armed police unknown in the North, and the parade of armed force before the slaves was a necessary result of their condition. In a word, my words of warning that it would be necessary to handle the troops of the North with very great caution and skill in the face of the Confederates have as yet been borne out to the letter. But they are not better or stronger men. The poor whites of the seaboard Slave States may be fairly set against the inferior population of the Northern cities, and the Secessionist levies of Tennessee may find their match in the men of Illinois and Iowa. If the war continues discipline will do its work with the United States' armies, and then the question will resolve itself into one of numbers and position. At the present moment there is not, as far as I can judge, outside of the regulars and one or two crack regiments, a single battalion which could be relied on to form into square to receive a charge of cavalry under a heavy fire with any regularity or success.

PLANS AND MOVEMENTS OF THE SECESSIONISTS.

Whatever may be the object in view, it is certain that the Government at Richmond is acting as if it intended to create apprehensions in Washington, and thereby animate its friends, and they are exceedingly numerous, in Maryland. There has been a gradual advance of the Confederates towards the Upper Potomac, and their outposts have been at the same time ostentatiously drawn back from the vicinity of the Federal lines. A strong force is said to be lying near Winchester, which is on the rail to Harper's Ferry, and at Strasburg, which is on the rail from Manassas. Another corps is, according to several accounts, close to Leesburg, the terminus of the rail from Alexandria, and another strong corps lies between Fairfax Court-house and Alexandria, resting on Manassas, and covering the roads to Washington and the town of Alexandria. A considerable number of scows and large flat-bottomed boats have been collected in the creeks of the Potomac below Washington, and it is suspected that there are batteries at Mathias' Point, which commands the channel of the river at a projecting spur about fifty-five miles below the capital, but that as yet they have held their tongues. At Acquia Creek, from which the rail to Richmond, by which passengers and traffic were usually carried in times gone by from Washington, runs, there have been batteries for a long time past, and it is now believed there is a camp there, and a considerable increase to the works. The scows, collected to the number of 500, could be loaded with guns, cavalry, and infantry, with ease, and many of them could carry a company complete at a trip. The channel of the river runs on an average within range of rifled ordnance, and there is no doubt that the Confederates are making ordnance of that nature at the Richmond Foundry. From Port Tobacco, on the bank of the Potomac, opposite Mathias' Point, a march of twenty-five miles would bring the Confederates behind Washington, on the line of rail between the capital and Baltimore and Annapolis. But the country is difficult, intersected with streams, and ill-provided with roads and means of communication.

PREPARATIONS IN THE NORTH.

The North is in such a mood that the Government is encouraged to proceed to the most extreme acts in repressing opinions hostile to their measures. It is now a crime against the United States to denounce the war, or even to cry aloud for peace, and there is a spirit abroad which promises to make the struggle last as long as men and money can be found to bring it to an end. The hardy fishermen who are fostered by a system of bounties on the north-eastern shores of the New England States have tendered their services at sea to the Government, and the officers and men of the mercantile marine have also placed at the disposal of the Navy a great body of brave sailors, who will soon be good gunners and men-of-war's men—as good as can be needed for the work they have to do. The army under McClellan is at least as strong as that which was under McDowell, and there cannot be less than 55,000 men around Washington at this moment, without including the force under Banks. There is an abundant supply of sailors for such ships as the Government can provide, and they are determined to act on the rivers as well as on the seacoast the moment they can do so.

Washington has had another panic, but it is not too much to say that it will soon be a vast entrenched camp, defended by redoubts, regular earthworks, palisades, and abattis, north and south, with the Potomac flowing through the midst of it, which, if properly defended, may bid defiance to anything but a regular attack, and decisive victories over the covering armies.

MUTINY AND DESERTION.

The taint of disaffection among the Northern troops is widely

spread, and is most dangerous, for it is, in my mind, quite causeless. This very day, in spite of the dispatch of prisoners to the Dry Tortugas from the 79th and other regiments, outbreaks amounting to mutiny took place among the men of the 12th New York and Pennsylvanian regiment, which were to be disbanded yesterday. The 2nd Maine, the 21st New York, the 10th New York, and other regiments have also been in trouble, and General Butler was obliged to bring his guns to bear on the mutinous men of his command at Fortress Monroe. The complaints of the men as to bad food are utterly unfounded. No army in the world has better rations than the troops of the United States. But the men want "iced water, milk, and butter!" By the official reports it appears that forty officers and some 500 men have deserted. They have not gone over to the enemy, but they have got away from their friends. Many of the prisoners may fairly be considered as deserters in disguise after that.

THE CASE OF MR. MURE.

As an instance of the inconveniences of the system now pursued by the United States' Government, and of the embarrassment caused to them by their own acts, take the case of Mr. Mure, an American naturalised subject, as I believe, and carrying despatches addressed to Earl Russell by Mr. Bunch, the British Consul at Charleston. Mr. Mure is the bearer of other letters written by people in the South, who are, of course, Secessionists, to their friends in Europe. Mr. Seward discovers that, among the property of Mr. Mure, there is not only matter of the latter kind, but a regular despatch to the English Foreign Office. What will he do with it? He applies to Lord Lyons to come and see it opened, I believe, and assist him in disposing of it. Lord Lyons declines to do anything of the kind. The despatches addressed to the British Minister have been seized. They are in the custody of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the Washington Government. Let the United States' Government deal with them. Mr. Seward, of course, cannot send the despatches direct to Earl Russell, and the strange proceeding of forwarding the communications of a British Consul with his Government by the Secretary of State at Washington, to the American Minister at London, who will probably thereupon remit them to Downing-street, will be the result—with what after-conclusion it is not easy to say. Of course, any complaints founded on matter contained in private and confidential communications between individuals not owing allegiance to the United States, which become improperly known to the seizure of the correspondence and the laxity of the authorities, cannot be entertained for a moment. Mr. Mure seems to have acted improperly if he has indeed conveyed any despatches for the Southern Commissioners under the cover of the passport granted to him by the British Consul as bearer of despatches; but it is very doubtful indeed whether the arrest itself was not unlawful, as the British flag should have protected him for any political offence, and if the captain of the vessel had refused to give him up the question would have assumed a very serious form. It is quite probable that Mr. Bunch and M. de Belligny, the Consuls of Great Britain and France, may have asked Mr. Trescot to ascertain Mr. Davis's views respecting the propositions agreed to by all the Powers except the United States at the Paris Conference in presence of the fact that the Confederate privateers are becoming very active; and if Mr. Trescot's representations induced the Government at Richmond to agree to all these propositions except the first, which does away with privateering itself, no one can say any harm has come of it. But it by no means follows that the gloss of an ignorant Secessionist is correct, and that the Confederate States are by one step nearer to recognition in consequence of that act than they were after the battle of Manassas. It would not be surprising to find that Mr. Seward was well aware an application would be made to Mr. Davis, whom we have acknowledged to be at the head of a belligerent Power, to accede to the principles accepted by the great Powers at the end of the Russian War, respecting which Mr. Seward's own views had undergone remarkable modifications since this great contest began.

IRELAND.

THE YELVERTON CASE.—A commission was opened on Tuesday in Dublin from the Court of Session in Scotland by the Commissioner, Mr. Crichton, of the Scotch Bar, to take proof in the action of declaration of marriage in the Scotch Courts by Mrs. Yelverton against Major Yelverton. Proof was adduced by Major Yelverton to establish that he had been a Protestant, or had professed to be a Protestant, twelve months before the marriage ceremony by Father Mooney, at Rostrevor, which, if proved, would render the Irish marriage null. It was objected (on behalf of Mrs. Yelverton) in the course of the proof that the question "whether the Major was a Protestant" could not and ought not to be put to the witness without first defining what a "Protestant" is; and a definition of the word "Protestant" was given by Archdeacon Knox to the effect that it meant every person who protested against Popery. The counsel for Mrs. Yelverton required that the Major should be produced in order to be identified, as several of the witnesses had made mistakes in reference both to the lady and gentleman. The Major's advisers did not produce him for that purpose, and moved the Commissioner to adjourn the examination to a future day. This motion of the Major's counsel was granted by the Commissioner against the remonstrance of the lady's advisers, who stated that the protracted proceedings in the suit were impairing her health, and overwhelming her with costs which she could not bear, and that, unless she were protected by the Court, she must, in despair, abandon her suit.

EXPLOSION AT A DUBLIN FIREWORK-MAKER'S.—A fearful explosion occurred on Saturday afternoon at Mr. Kirby's fireworks manufactory, Sandy-mound, Dublin, by which two of the workmen were seriously injured. It appears that whilst firing a rocket the rod struck fire, the ignition extending to the explosives around, blowing up the workmen, and destroying the building. The two poor fellows were removed to the City of Dublin Hospital, where, up to the latest accounts, they were progressing favourably.

FATAL RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—On Friday, last week, as some men were engaged in raising a block of stone weighing 10 or 12 cwt. to its proper place on a bridge which is being erected across the road from Cavan to Killeshandra, on the Dundalk and Enniskillen Railway, the scaffolding gave way, and the stone, falling upon the head of one of the workmen, killed him instantaneously; four or five others were likewise seriously injured. This is the fourteenth or fifteenth accident—four or five of which terminated fatally—which has occurred since the commencement of this branch line. As the three p.m. up-train from Cork was approaching Ballinamona Church, on Saturday, the driver of the engine observed a man crossing the rails, when he immediately gave the alarm whistle, but, unfortunately, the man was deaf, and took no notice. The train could not be stopped till it had passed over the poor fellow, severing the head from the body, and taking one leg clean off. He had been engaged with other men cutting hay on the slopes, and had by them been sent for refreshments, with which he was returning when the fatal accident occurred.

SCOTLAND.

SUSPECTED MURDER NEAR GLASGOW.—A terrible murder is supposed to have been committed in the neighbourhood of Glasgow last week. The victim was Mr. William Simpson, a coalmaster at the village of Larkhall, and the object would seem to have been plunder, as the unfortunate man was returning home from the bank at Airdrie with a supply of money needful to pay his men their weekly wages. His body has not been recovered, but his hat, pocket-book, and several small coins were found; and, as the hat was disfigured with several gashes, the theory of foul play was at first very strongly sustained. Further investigations lead to a doubt whether any murder has been committed, and the whole affair is enveloped in mystery.

COMBAT BETWEEN A HEN AND AN ADDER.—The *Ayr Advertiser* notices a battle between a hen and an adder, near the village of Old Minnigaff. "From the manner in which she jumped among the long grass on the bank we at first concluded that chuckie was tethered. Not so, however, for, on making a sudden dart down, she lifted and threw about a yard high what at first sight appeared to be a worm of ten or twelve inches in length. This she continued to do half a dozen times in succession with the utmost rapidity, until it finally fell over the bank, when we at once perceived the reptile of chuckie's attention was no other than an adder. Having gazed a moment over the bank after it fell, she turned round, and uttered a few victorious chuckles, when, to our further astonishment, there appeared first one tiny head and long neck, and then another and another, above the grass, until a whole brood of chickens appeared and clustered around her, of whose existence we were not aware during the combat; but, doubtless, it was for their protection that chuckie had engaged in so dangerous a duel."

"IN CLOVER."—A little boy was recently missed in a family at Edinburgh, and the services of the police were called into requisition, but the lost one could not be found. At last it accidentally occurred to some one to look into the storeroom of the house. On unlocking the door the little fellow was discovered in a serene state of perfect bliss, totally unconscious of the anxiety his disappearance had created, and with the debris of we do not know how many pounds of raisins and other forbidden fruits lying round him!

THE BRAEMAR GATHERING.—This famous old Highland gathering took place on the usual stance in front of Braemar Castle last week. The gathering of this year, though on the whole very successful, was not one of the best of its kind, probably, in a great degree, owing to the absence of her Majesty, who, to the regret of all, did not honour the gathering by her presence. Princess Alice, however, was present, along with Prince Alfred, Prince Leopold, and Prince Arthur. Prince Louis of Hesse also, who only arrived at Balmoral the evening previous, was present, and remained until the games were finished.

DEATH OF THE KING OF THE GIPSYES.—There has lately been great grief in the gipsy community at Yetholm, Jedburgh, and throughout the district, on account of their venerable King, whose death took place on the 19th ult. It is not right that one exalted so high above his kindred should be laid in the dust without a word of farewell over his grave, especially when his reign was of a peaceful and not predatory character. Unlike some of his contemporary Monarchs, his rule was so mild that his subjects not only maintained a loyal deference, but were tenderly attached to him; while his exemplary habit of abstaining from interference or aggression on the empire of others procured him much of the goodwill and respect of other "Powers." While his regal character and conduct were thus exemplary, his personal demeanour gained him the respect of those not acknowledging his sway. His palace had been a house of call for many a tourist, and the conversation of the old King was generally much relished. His most noticeable habits were those of reading the Scriptures and chewing tobacco, of which he frequently received considerable quantities from his visitors. The deceased King bore the designation of Charles I., being at least the first of that name of his family who occupied the throne and had attained the venerable age of eighty-six. A large company followed his remains to their last resting-place in Yetholm churchyard. He leaves no one to succeed to the crown; but, as the monarchy is an elective one, it is likely his successor will be chosen and crowned without an appeal to arms on the part of any Pretender. —*Kelso Chronicle.*

THE HERRING-FISHING IN THE NORTH.—The herring season closed on the 7th inst., and most of the crews have returned to their homes. The take is reported to have been a very poor one, not being nearly up to the average of ordinary seasons. The boisterous weather has been the chief cause of the shortcoming in the fishing, and this has been aggravated by the great damage that has been sustained in injury done to the boats and fishing gear. Much disappointment is expressed on the north coast at the untoward results of the season, large portions of the people in the Wick and Peterhead districts being mainly dependent on the herring-fishing for subsistence during the year.

THE PROVINCES.

PLYMOUTH ELECTION.—There seems likely to be a keen contest for the representation of Plymouth, rendered vacant by the death of Lord Mount Edgcumbe and the consequent elevation of the late member to the House of Peers. Mr. Walter Morrison, from Yorkshire, has issued an address, and held meetings of the electors; Mr. Campbell Sleath, barrister, was in the field, but it is believed has retired; Mr. Samuel Pope, of Manchester, has also addressed the electors; and Mr. White, M.P., has introduced, or is about to introduce, another candidate—Mr. Otway by name. These are all Liberals, and the Conservatives are also in motion, the division in the Liberal ranks giving them hopes which they could not otherwise have entertained. There are thus several "Richmonds in the field," and an exciting struggle will probably be the result.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—The catalogue of railway mishaps continues to swell. On Tuesday a man was killed at a level-crossing on the line from Newcastle and Sunderland to South Shields. Severe blame is attached to the signalman for having allowed the deceased to cross the line when a train was more than due and therefore momentarily expected. On Wednesday a portion of the roof of the Charlton tunnel on the North Kent line fell in while a train was passing. Fortunately, however, the train got clear, and no casualty occurred. The accident arose from the rotten state of the timber supports of the tunnel roof.

FLOODS IN LANCASHIRE.—Lancashire has been visited by such heavy rains as to cause the rivers to overflow their banks and occasion great damage to property. The manufacturing town of Todmorden appears to have suffered very severely. It is said that "in many places the water rose eighteen inches higher than in any previous flood; mills were flooded, cottages filled with water, and one poor man was actually drowned in his bed."

CHERTSEY ABBEY.—The council of the Surrey Archaeological Society have determined to assist in promoting the proposed excavations of the site of Chertsey Abbey, which has recently been purchased by one of their local honorary secretaries, Mr. Thomas R. Bartrop, and have opened a public subscription for the purpose. A large and curious collection of tiles from this site is at the Architectural Museum, South Kensington, and an equally large and very complete collection is in the possession of the Surrey Society. The excavations are now being carried on with great spirit, under the superintendence of Mr. M. Sharlock, a well-known local antiquary; and during the last few days some interesting remains have been turned up, or rather exposed; tile-paving, supposed to be a part of the cloisters, stone coffins, leaden chalice, and patent gold coin, gold ring, &c.

GROSS IMPOSITION ON SOMERSETSHIRE FARMERS.—A daring swindling case has just been brought to light in Taunton. For some time past a person from London paid visits to Taunton monthly cattle market in the character of a dealer, and made purchases to a somewhat considerable extent, paying for them by cheque on the Reading branch of the London and County Bank. On presentation the cheques were duly honoured, and, as he gave somewhat liberal prices, he was courted by the farmers in the neighbourhood. Saturday last was a great market, and the appearance of the liberal London dealer was hailed with considerable satisfaction by sellers. The prices he offered for sheep exceeded their expectations, and in a short time the market was cleared of sheep by the enterprising London dealer, and shortly afterwards they were on their way to the metropolitan cattle market. In the course of the afternoon the sellers received payment, as usual, by cheque on the Reading branch of the London and County Bank, and were thoroughly satisfied with their day's work. A day or two since the cheques found their way to the Reading Bank, but, to the consternation and alarm of the victims, replies were received that the dealer had "no effects." Inquiries were at once instituted, when it was discovered that the fellow had sold the whole of the sheep at Islington Market at an alarming sacrifice. The sum we have heard of as lost by farmers in the neighbourhood of Taunton amounts to £1200 to £1400. Some have been "done" of £170, the lowest sum being £30. On Saturday the perpetrator of these frauds was brought up at the Taunton Police Court, having been apprehended on the day previous in Exeter. Scarcely any money was found upon him; but it has been ascertained that the whole of the proceeds of the sale of the sheep have found their way into a bank at Exeter. He gave the name of John Windeat, cattle-dealer, York-terrace, New Cattle Market, Holloway, London. Some preliminary evidence having been given, he was remanded for a week, in order to complete the numerous charges against him, and to procure the attendance of witnesses from a distance.

A GHOST AT RISELEY.—Our readers will no doubt be surprised at the fact that a real and substantial ghost has appeared *in proprio personae* at the village of Riseley. It seems that a certain householder, whom we will call William, retired to rest one evening last week, feeling sure that all the doors and shutters were duly fastened. He had hardly received the embrace of the god of sleep before he heard some very mysterious sounds in the regions below. His first idea was that some person of mistaken ideas with respect to *meum* and *tuum* was endeavouring to find an entrance into his premises, so that he might enjoy some of the good things of this life, which, it is well known, friend William has laid up in store. But no; the sounds he heard were not those of the midnight marauder; they were scratching, thumpings, and runnings, followed by the sound, as it were, of some smothered groans. Naturally, brave William at last got out of bed, lighted a candle, and came down stairs, as he says, "just as he was," with only the weapons provided by Nature, in the shape of a pair of decent fists and a foot which can give a most unmistakable kick. He had no sooner got down than the awful sounds ceased; he opened the back door, and notwithstanding the coolness of his attire, boldly went out to see if he could there discover the disturber of his rest; but nothing could he find outside. He returned into the house, and scarcely had he entered the doorway when a large hairy object met him with a thump, thump, thump! Poor William, with all his bravery, was "rather scared;" but, plucking up his dormant courage, he boldly assailed the object—ghost or no ghost—and soon had the whole satisfactorily explained. It appeared that ere retiring to rest William had accidentally left a small quantity of milk at the bottom of a narrow-necked jug; this milk puss had discovered in her peregrinations, and, in her eagerness to have a taste thereof, had thrust her head into the jug, but was to all intent unable to withdraw it again. It was in trying to relieve herself of the impromptu addressress that puss had made the horrible noises which had alarmed the valiant William. However, William was very glad to have seen the ghost; and, as he once more tucked himself comfortably between the sheets, expressed himself to the effect that "he was glad it was no worse!" —*Stamford Mercury.*

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

The various sections of the association have been well attended since the commencement of their sittings, and several very valuable papers on almost every department of science have been read and discussed. Our limited space precludes the possibility of giving even an epitome of the most interesting of these papers: we can only afford room for a few extracts from one or two on subjects which possess general interest at present.

STRIKES.

In the section of economic science, on the 6th, Dr. Watts read a paper on Strikes, from which, as that subject is much before public attention just now, we give a few passages. Dr. Watts said:

Economic science rules that the price of labour, like that of any other commodity, will be regulated by the supply of, compared with the demand for it, and working men practically acknowledge the truth of the theory even while fighting against it, for they withdraw labour from the market, thus making it artificially scarce, in order to keep up the price. But such an operation, even if successful, is shortsighted. The operatives forget that all increase to the wages fund comes out of the profits of the employer and the invested savings of the workman, and that to arbitrarily prevent the production of wealth is just as injurious to society, and as certainly lessens the future demand for workmen, as if the employers and workshops and plant had been burnt or been cast into the sea. The main causes of strikes have been threefold—the desire to limit trade, the introduction of new machinery, and dissatisfaction with the rate of wages paid. Sometimes the strike is against the new machine, and sometimes against the arrangements rendered necessary by its introduction. A Liverpool shipbuilder in 1859 got the copper for a ship's bottom punched by machinery ready for nailing on, but his workmen struck and obliged him to set the hand-punches to work to go over the job, as it was not already done, and to pay them for the sham. The staystitchers of Kettering struck against the employment of the sewing-machine, and so strong was the sympathy of trade societies that subscriptions were sent in aid of the strike from the very machine-shop which supplied the obnoxious articles. It seems to be very difficult for working men to get out of the idea that improved machinery will lessen the demand for labour, although both theory and practice prove the contrary. Most of the strikes which have come under my observation have resulted from dissatisfaction with the amount of wages paid. This dissatisfaction, so far as the cotton trade is concerned, is sometimes general and sometimes local. It is general when the state of trade requires a reduction of wages, or when workmen think the state of trade justifies a rise; it is local when the hands of one place think themselves worse paid than the hands in other places. The workmen seem to desire to have a regular standard list of wages throughout each department of the trade, regardless of the advantages or disadvantages of particular localities, the quality of the machinery used, or of the material to be wrought up. The manufacturer feels that if he lays out capital on improved machinery, or supplies extra good material, and thus enables his workpeople to produce more in a given time, he ought to get a trading profit upon such extra outlay. The price of labour is a bargain between the employer and the workman, and it is not unnatural that each should put a different estimate upon the proposed arrangement. Any dissatisfaction on the side of the workmen is submitted to the central committee of their society, which advises whether to accept the terms of the employer or to organise a strike in order to force the employer to give the price demanded by the society. The difference in dispute is sometimes not more than 2d., frequently not more than 5d., and seldom exceeds 10 per cent of the wages paid. The duration of a strike varies much. The great Preston strike lasted 38 weeks; the late one at Paditham, 29 weeks; Bolton, 6 weeks; Ashton and district, 6 weeks; Clitheroe, 6 weeks; Blackburn, 3 weeks. The strike of the London builders lasted 26 weeks, and the late Colne strike 50 weeks. Let us assume 5 per cent as the average amount in dispute, and assume that the strike is in every case successful, and we shall then find that the adage which is applied to disputants at law, "that he who wins loses," is equally applicable here. A week is nearly 2 per cent of a working year, and, of course, represents nearly 2 per cent of the wages of a year. If, therefore, a strike for 5 per cent succeeds, its results will be exhibited in the following figures:—The loss of 1 month's wages will require to make it up 1 3/5th of a year of work at the extra rate; 2 months' wages, 3 1/5th; 3 months' wages, 4 4/5ths; 6 months' wages, 9 3/5ths; 12 months' wages, 19 1/5th. But, as money is worth 5 per cent, it follows that if a strike lasts 12 months and then succeeds, the workman has lost in interest much more than he has gained in wages; and therefore no part of the loss can ever be made up, for if he would have worked for the lower sum during the year of strike, and invested instead of spending the money, the year's wages would have grown into three years' wages, nearly, by the time in which the gain of the strike would make up for the loss of a single year. Of course a strike for 10 per cent would require only half the above term to make up the loss, whilst a strike for 24 per cent would require double the time exhibited in the table, or 41 years. The strike of the London builders in 1859 was for 10 per cent, and, as it lasted 26 weeks, would, if successful, have required 10 2/5ths of continuous work at the extra rate to make up the loss of wages sacrificed. The amount in dispute between the weavers of Cole and their employers did not average more than 3d. per cent, and, had the strike been successful, would have required more than 28 years' continuous employment at the advance to make up the amount of wages lost, by which time the lost wages would at 5 per cent have been quadrupled. In the cotton trade wages appear to undergo something like a general adjustment every three or four years, in consequence principally of defective or abundant harvests of corn or cotton, or both. Such adjustments occurred in 1853, 1857, and 1860. If, therefore, the strikes which occur are spread equally over these periods, they would, even if successful, only affect the rate of wages for about two years upon an average, and, therefore, could not make up for more than about five weeks' loss of wages by strike. But strikes are seldom successful to the workmen; so that, whilst they sacrifice the wages of the present time, they also lessen the wealth of the world, and so lessen the future demand for labour, and put further off the day when any advance of wages will be possible. Here is a list of unsuccessful strikes, with a rough estimate of the losses consequent thereon. Some of these were amongst spinners and some amongst weavers; and, learning that about £45 in weaving and £30 in spinning will represent the capital per hand engaged, I have assumed for the purpose of my calculations £65 as the general average:—

EXAMPLE OF UNSUCCESSFUL STRIKES, WITH ESTIMATE OF LOSS TO SOCIETY.						
Name of Town.	No. of Weeks of Strike.	Subscription.	Total Loss.			
Preston	15,000	38	£106,875	£628,216		
Paditham	800	9	4,350	25,494		
Clitheroe	3,000	6	3,375	19,800		
Blackburn and district	40,000	3	22,500	132,000		
Ashton district	22,000	6	24,750	145,274		
Colne	1,500	50	14,062	82,499		
Bolton	12,000	6	13,500	83,750		
London builders	10,000	26	81,205	446,874		
			£270,617	£1,563,908		

The associated colliers have spent about a quarter of a million since 1842, and the amalgamated engineers three away near half a million in 1852. According to our assumption of capital of £65 per individual, the amount thus lost would have given employment and wages to 17,184 persons. All the above named, except the Preston strike, have occurred within the last two years and a half, and all have ended unsuccessfully, so that there has been no compensation whatever.

Three modes of preventing strikes might be adopted:—1. For trades societies to discharge the functions of labour agencies by affording information as to where labour was wanted, and assisting workmen to go where their services were required; 2. By a court of arbitration, to which all disputes should be referred, in which both parties should be equally represented, in which a perfectly impartial umpire should preside, and from which lawyers should be excluded; 3. The now rapidly-extending co-operative societies and manufacturing companies, with limited liability. This latter mode will severely test the capacities of the working classes; but, if successful, will be the most effectual means of obviating strikes; and if the real co-operative societies extend and succeed, it is possible that we may see individual employers, in self-defence, constituting their workpeople partners in profits, in the belief that the extra interest excited in work would make the employer's share of profit greater than the whole amount formerly obtained.

THE ADMIRALTY IRON-CASED SHIPS.

Mr. E. J. Reed read a very interesting paper "On the Iron-cased Ships of the British Admiralty."

Having noticed the Warrior and the Black Prince, Mr. Reed said the first of the new ships, the Achilles, which has recently been begun at Chatham Dockyard, very nearly resembles the Warrior and the Black Prince. The only difference between her and those vessels is that her beam is slightly broader, and her floor somewhat flatter than her predecessors', whereby her tonnage is increased from 6039 to 6089 tons, and her displacement from 8625 to 9030 tons. All her other dimensions and all her essential features of construction are exactly like those of the Warrior, from which it may be inferred that the method of plating the central part only of the ship, which was introduced by Mr. Scott Russell, is still viewed with favour by the Admiralty designers. In the class of ships which come next, however, the Admiralty have consented to forego the plan of plating amidships only, and purpose plating the ship from end to end with thick iron. But in order to

do this, it has been necessary to resort to larger dimensions than the Warrior's, and hence these six new ships, three of which have just been contracted for, are to be 20ft. longer than her, 15in. broader, of 582 tons additional burthen, and 1245 tons additional displacement. As the displacement is the true measure of the ship's actual size below the water, or of her weight, it is evident that the new ships are to be considerably more than 1000 tons larger than the Warrior class. As their engines are to be only of the same power, their speed will probably be much less. This diminished speed is one of the penalties which have to be paid for protecting the extremities of the ship with thick plates. Another will probably be a great tendency to plunge and chop in a seaway. The construction of such vessels is a series of compromises, and no one can fairly blame the Admiralty for building vessels on various plans, so that their relative merits may be practically tested. The cost of this new class of ships will exceed that of the Warrior class by some £20,000 or £30,000, owing to the increased size. But it will certainly be a noble specimen of a war-ship. A vessel built through and iron, 400ft. long and nearly 60 broad, invulnerable from end to end to all shell and to nearly all shot, armed with an abundance of the most powerful ordnance, with ports 9ft. 6in. above the water, and steaming at a speed of from twelve to thirteen knots an hour, will indeed be a formidable engine of war; and, if the present intentions of the Admiralty are carried out, we shall add six such vessels to our Navy during the next year or two. I now come to notice a very different class of vessel, in which the hull is to be formed mainly of timber, the armour-plating brought upon the ordinary outside planking. The Royal Alfred, Royal Oak, Caledonia, Ocean, and Triumph are to be of this class. Their dimensions are to be—length, 273ft.; breadth, 58ft. 6in.; depth in hold, 19ft. 10in.; mean draught of water, 25ft. 9in.; and height of port, 7ft. They are to be of 4045 tons burthen, and to have a displacement of 6839 tons. They are to be fitted with engines of 1000-horse power. They are being framed with timber originally designed for wooden line-of-battle ships, but are to be 18ft. longer than those ships were to be. They will form a class of vessels intermediate between the Hector and the Warrior classes, but, unlike both of them, will be plated with armour from end to end. They will be without knees of the head, and with upright round sterns; and will, therefore, look very nearly as ugly as La Gloire, although, in other respects, much superior vessels, being 21ft. 6in. longer, 3ft. 5in. broader, and of less draught of water. They will also be quite equal to her in speed. With respect to the armaments of the new classes, nothing has yet been finally decided. The plated timber ships may usefully be compared with the model French vessel La Gloire, which is 252ft. 6in. long, has an armament of thirty-four guns upon her main-deck, and two heavy shell-guns forward—36 guns in all. Now, our ships are to be more than 20 ft. longer than her, and will therefore take two additional ports on either side, so that they will carry not less than 40 guns, if the ports are placed as close together as in La Gloire. In addition to this, they will doubtless have powerful ordnance on their upper decks for use under favourable circumstances. Let me now consider the pecuniary phase of this iron-cased ship question. We may fairly assume that the average cost of such vessels will not be less than £50 per ton, and that their engines will cost at least £60 per horse power. Supposing these figures to be correct, then the hulls of the eighteen ships will cost us £4,681,600, and their engines £1,143,000—together nearly £6,000,000. When masted, rigged, armed, and fully equipped for sea they will, of course, represent a much larger sum, probably, nearly £8,000,000. These estimates will afford some faint conception of the nature of that reconstruction of the Navy upon which we may now be said to have fairly entered, in so far as the ships themselves are concerned. But we must not conceal the fact that the introduction of these enormous iron-cased ships has entailed upon us the construction of other colossal and most costly works. We have now to provide immense docks for their reception, for at present we possess none suitable to receive them. Many considerations combine to exalt the importance of this part of the subject; but there is one which is paramount—viz., that we dare not send these ships against a French fleet unless we have docks for them to run in the event of a disaster. We know not what may happen to these altogether novel structures until they have been exposed to successive broadsides or a heavy naval battery; and it would be madness to send them out to encounter a powerful fleet of vessels as strong as themselves unless we are prepared to open docks to receive them in case of necessity. What is required in each case is deep water up to the entrance of the dock, a depth of not less than 27 or 28ft. at the sill, and a length on the floor of the dock of 400ft. These things are not combined in any of her Majesty's dockyards. In this respect we are far behind our neighbours, who have docks at Cherbourg, Lorient, Brest, and Toulon, varying from 200ft. to 720ft. in length, and some of them 90ft. wide. In order to place ourselves on an equality with the French Navy, no less than to meet certain emergencies, we must, with a reconstructed fleet, found a colossal dock establishment on some favourable point on our southern shores, furnished with the means of carrying on extensive repairs in time of war.

TELEGRAPHIC SOIREE.

An interesting soirée was held on Saturday evening at the Free-trade Hall, Manchester. The subject specially selected for the evening's entertainment was that of telegraphic communication, and elaborate preparations had been made for rendering the meeting entertaining and instructive. A large collection of apparatus was placed in the room, and was connected by various telegraphic lines with different parts of the world. In the course of the evening messages were exchanged with the Prince Consort at Balmoral, with Edinburgh, Aberdeen, the Hague, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Odessa, Nicholaief, &c. The communication with Odessa, a distance of 2200 miles, was accomplished in two minutes—that is, to a message sent from Manchester at 9.18 a reply was received at 9.20. The entertainment gave great satisfaction to the numerous and distinguished persons present.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The sectional business of the association was concluded on Tuesday, and the final general meeting took place on Wednesday, when Professor Phillips read a report of the proceedings, and the session was closed with congratulatory speeches on the success which had attended the operations of the association during the past year, and on the satisfactory nature of the deliberations of the meeting of 1861.

PRIZE MEDAL OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1862.—The design for the obverse of this medal has been completed and approved, and the engraver is engaged in producing the die for it. The work is of a much more elaborate and beautiful character than that of the prize medal of 1851. In the centre of the medal Britannia is depicted seated on a throne. In her right hand she holds a wreath, and in her left an olive branch. Emblematic figures, representing Manufactures, Raw Produce, and Machinery, are exhibiting to her their several productions. Behind Britannia, Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture—who are to receive no reward beyond the tribute of admiration which their works will surely induce—are seen, emblematically represented, and watching earnestly the decision of Britannia. Resting at the feet of the central figure, and occupying the whole foreground of the group, the British Lion, in all his majesty, is shown. The dimensions of the medal will be identical with that given in 1851, as well as the material of which it is composed—namely, bronze.

ABOLITION OF OATHS IN CRIMINAL CASES.—On the 1st of next month an important Act of Parliament passed in the late Session will come into operation, under which persons who may refuse or be unwilling, from alleged conscientious motives, to be sworn in criminal proceedings, may make declarations or affirmations. On a person declining to be sworn to an affidavit or as a witness in court the party may make a declaration on alleging that he solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirmed and declared "that the taking of any oath is, according to his religious belief, unlawful;" and the declaration to speak the truth is to be of the same force and effect as if the person had taken an oath; and for a false declaration or affirmation he is to be liable to the same penalties as for perjury.

THE ENFIELD RIFLE.—In the completed Enfield rifle there are not less than sixty-one separate and distinct portions; and yet 100 or 1000 of such rifles were first to be put together, afterwards dismembered, and then to have their various component items and furniture intermingled in wanton and indiscriminate confusion, a workman might unite all the parts, without fear of any of them misfiring, at the rate of one rifle in three minutes. In compassing this result on the large scale in which it is accomplished at Enfield, upwards of 800 machines and approaching 2000 hands—young and old—are employed. Three hundred and fifty finished rifles per day is the maximum rate of production; and upon each rifle there are expended nearly 800 separate processes of manipulation.—*Mechanics' Magazine*.

DESTRUCTION OF LITERARY PROPERTY.—One of the drawbacks of this beautiful summer has been a very great increase in the average number of fires. Hitherto the destruction of property has not fallen upon literature, but the calamity of Wednesday week in Paternoster-row has fallen upon it rather heavily. Messrs. Longman are the chief literary sufferers. We understand that their losses include the whole of their stock of Macaulay's fifth volume, and the illustrated edition of "Lalla Rookh." M. Lemare, recently established as a commission agent, has lost the whole of his property, and had a narrow escape with his life. The Messrs. Blakie, among other property, have lost the whole of the copperplates of their large quarto atlas.—*Athenaeum*.—A memorial has been presented to the Commissioners of Sewers against the re-erection of Messrs. Knight's tallow-melting establishment in the precincts sacred to the publishing trade. It is to be hoped that such a nuisance in such a quarter will not be re-established.

THE PNEUMATIC DESPATCH COMPANY'S TUBE AT BATTERSEA.

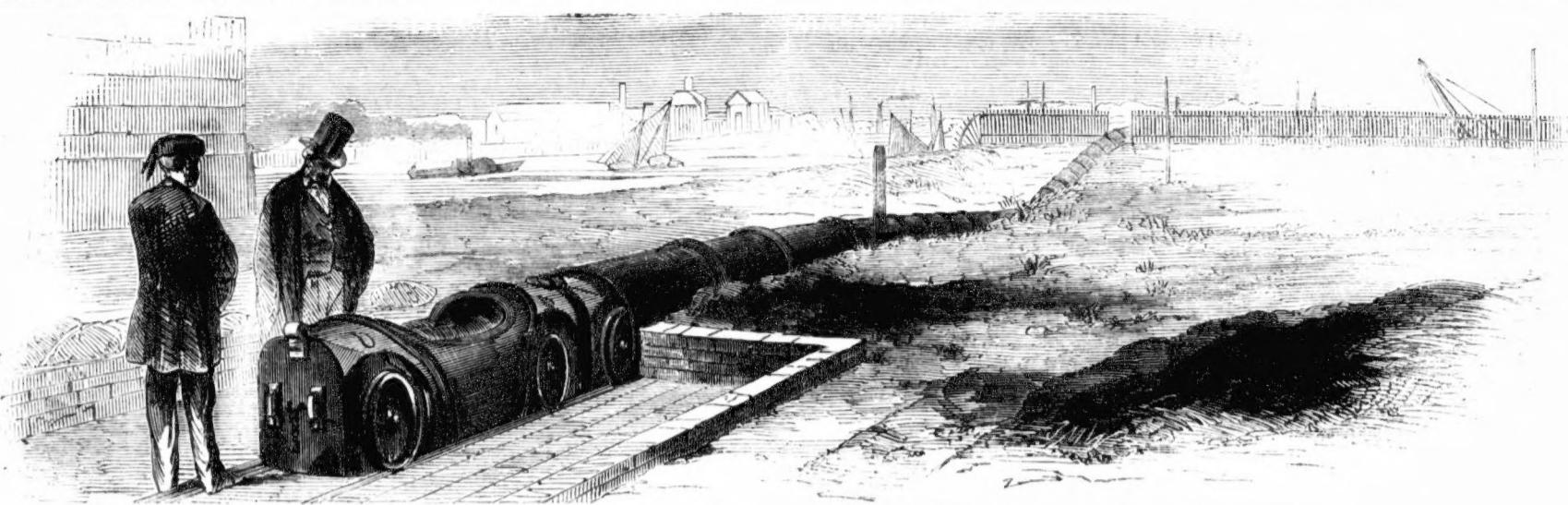
A JOINT-STOCK COMPANY has been formed for establishing in the metropolis lines of pneumatic tube for the speedy and convenient carriage of letters and parcels. Novel as it may be to some, the pneumatic tube is no new contrivance, but has for several years been used by Mr. Latimer Clark as a means of intercommunication between the central station of the Electric and International Telegraph Company at Lothbury and their branch stations in Cornhill and the Stock Exchange—the greatest length of tube being three-quarters of a mile. The practicability of the scheme is therefore no matter of conjecture, but an affair of actual experience. The sceptical and curious can, by a visit to the premises of the railway station at Battersea Fields, see and judge for themselves, as that locality is just now made especially attractive by the operations of an experimental tube recently laid down by the Pneumatic Company. On the bank of the river this tube lies—its length of a quarter of a mile presenting, with its various gradients and curves, the appearance of a vast snake, sinuous but motionless. It is not circular, but resembles an ordinary railway tunnel, its internal height being 2ft. 9in.; and its width measuring at the springing of the arch 2ft. 6in., and at the springing of the invert just 2 in. less. Formed of 9-ft. lengths of cast iron, fitted with common socket-joints and packed with lead, the passage is made with a proper diversity of curves and inclines. One gradient represents the incline of Holborn-hill, another that of Skinner-street, whilst the minimum curve is of 40 ft. radius. The exhausting apparatus offers the point of difference between the works at Battersea and those employed in the City by the Electric and International Telegraph Company. In the City the vacuum is created by a pump; at Battersea the exhaustion is effected by the revolution of a fan, 21ft. in diameter (which may be described for the moment as a hollow disc), that by purely centrifugal action draws the air from two branch pipes rising from the tube, with circular mouths 3 ft. in diameter, placed opposite to each other at a distance of 3 ft. The fan is capable of working eight such tubes simultaneously. The air rushing along the tube to fill up the vacuum thus creates propels the cast-iron despatch-carriages, running on rails cast in the bottom of the tube. As the loads in the despatch-carriages are not much more than half a ton, an exhaustion of from 7 to 11 in. of air gives a velocity of about twenty-five miles an hour.

The relation of this ingenious contrivance to the Atmospheric Railway (which, at least for the present, commercial considerations have condemned to be ranked amongst the splendid failures of mechanical achievement) will be best illustrated by recounting the various stages in the history of pneumatic propulsion. From the time of M. Papin, who first proposed to employ the rarefaction of air in a cylinder to act at great distances, the question how atmospheric pressure could be converted into locomotive force available for the conveniences of society, has been a problem of lively interest to engineers. Towards the close of the last century, Murdoch was devoting his attention to the subject. The means of propulsion he proposed to employ was watery vapour working an air-pump. His plan, however, consisted simply of an exhausted tube, through which might be propelled a hollow sphere containing letters and packages. The year 1810 heard the proposal of Medhurst, the Danish engineer, to put letters and goods in a canal (6ft. high and 5ft. wide, and containing a road of stone and iron), and project them by means of atmospheric rarefaction and compression. In 1824 an Englishman, Mr. Vallance, made a similar and better suggestion. His daring plan was to connect Brighton and London by means of an enormous tube, through which, by pumping out the air, carriages were to be propelled with the velocity of a cannon-ball. This project was, in its day, the cause of much discussion, but made no advance to the favour of capitalists able to carry it out.

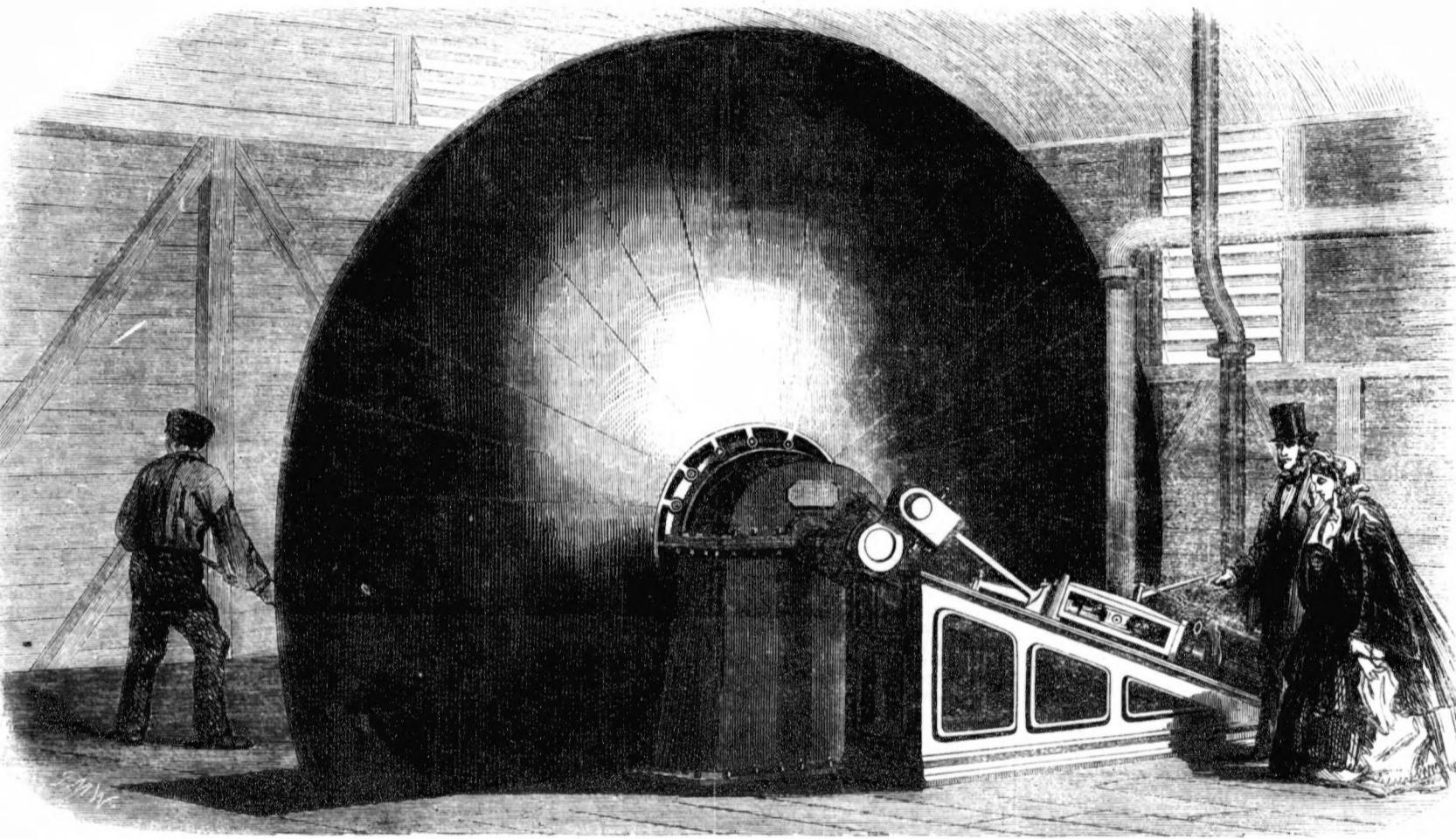
Another proposal was made by Medhurst. It was not long ere he discovered that his original proposal could never be brought to work, and advocated as an improvement on his first suggestion the use of a smaller tube, from which the air should be exhausted by a pump before a piston introduced into the tube; the motive force of the piston, as it was driven along the passage by the closing in of the air behind, being conveyed to carriages outside the tube through a longitudinal opening. This opening was to be closed by an hydraulic apparatus, called a water-valve. Beautiful as Medhurst's scheme was in theory, it was at that time impracticable, and his experiments were unsuccessful. The water-valve refused to exclude the air from the tube. Another valve was several years later (in 1834) substituted by Pinkus for the water-valve, but with the same result of failure. There was still need of another inventor. That power appeared in the person of Murdoch's pupil in the "Soho Factory," Samuel Clegg. The valve invented by him, in conjunction with Mr. Jacob Samuda, of the Southwark Ironworks, gave the perfecting touch to Medhurst's proposal, and led to the construction of the Kingston and Dalkey, the Croydon, and several other atmospheric lines. It is not necessary here to examine the causes of the failure of the atmospheric system. It will be time enough to do so when the public shall again wish to waste their money giving it a trial. The foregoing summary aims only at showing the reader the points of distinction between the atmospheric railway of Clegg and Samuda, and the strong similarity—indeed, as far as any great principle is concerned, the identity—of the pneumatic tube and the early proposals of Murdoch, Medhurst, and Vallance, out of which the atmospheric railway proceeded. Murdoch and Vallance (and Medhurst in his first proposal) contemplated the use of a pneumatic tube for the conveyance of parcels. With them the motive power and the thing moved were both to be inclosed in the tube. It is the same with the Pneumatic Company. Medhurst and Vallance intended to employ a pump, whereas the new company achieves the requisite atmospheric suction by means of a revolving fan.

Of the mechanical success of the Pneumatic Despatch Tube there is believed to be little room to doubt. The probable commercial success of the company is another question, which will depend altogether on the price at which they will be able to sell, and the rate at which the public will be ready to buy their services. The principal sources of expense in constructing such a tube in London, and working it, are too manifest to require enumeration. The advantages of such a system as an engine of postal conveyance and delivery, and as a means of speedy communication between the different quarters of the town, are so great and conspicuous that the promoters are sure of a cordial welcome from the public. "The company," say the directors in their prospectus, "propose to lay their first line from St. Martin's-le-Grand to one of the principal district post-offices, in a manner specially adapted to the requirements of the service, at the same time opening stations on the line for general service. The success of this work once practically demonstrated, the company propose to proceed gradually with additional lines to the other district and principal post-offices, the several railway termini, and other convenient stations to be established in the chief business and residential quarters of London, on such a plan that ultimately every important point of communication may be embraced in a complete system, through which a rapid and continuous circulation will be maintained." We understand that the company even contemplate to discharge the functions of commissioners as well as carriers. The adoption of such a course would almost effect a revolution in the minor economics of London life. That the company have before them a large field of enterprise, may be estimated by the fact that the Post Office service by carts and vans used in the metropolis consumes £11,000 yearly, and that the annual cost of the railway small parcels service in town is computed at £38,000.

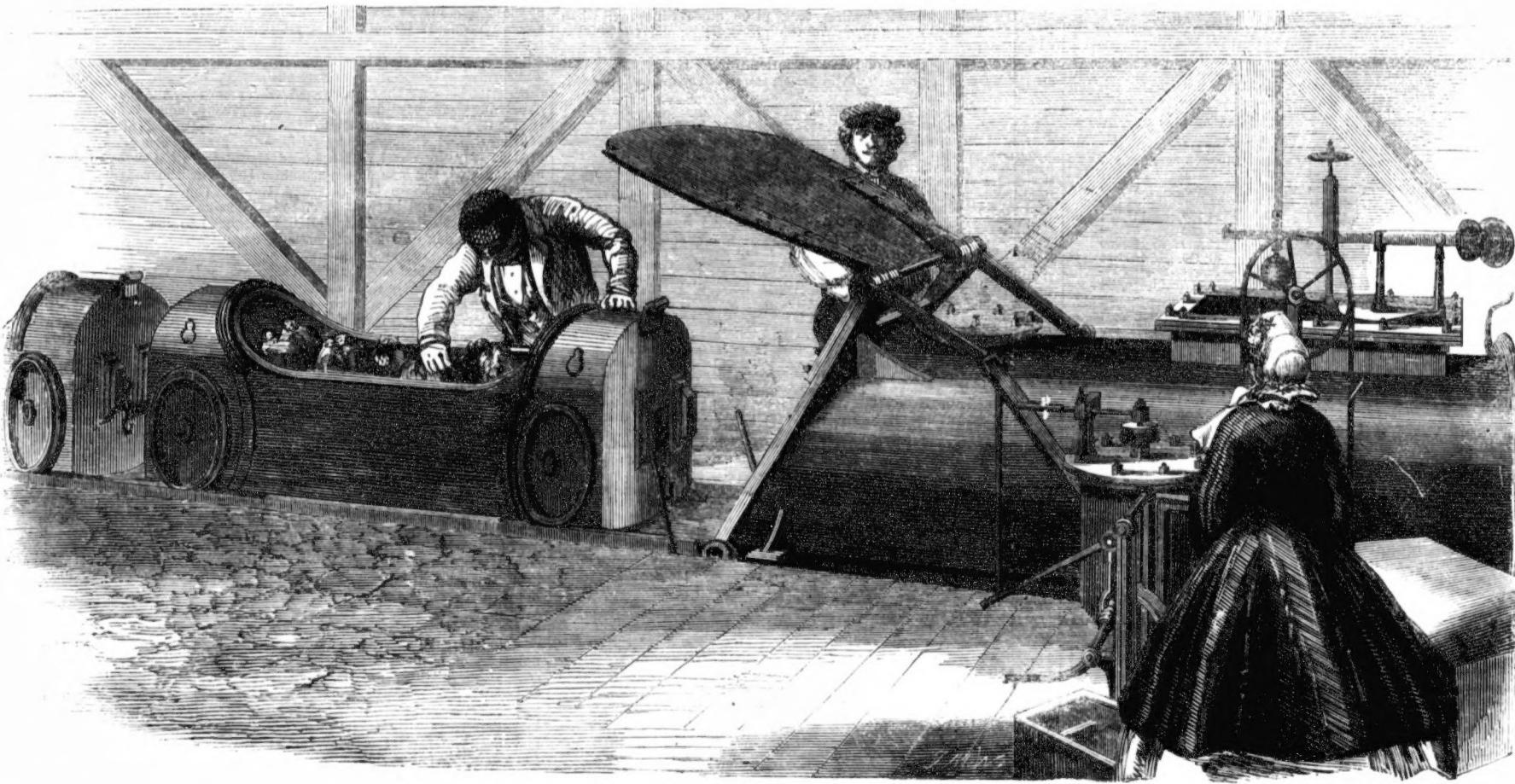
THE TRIAL OF OSCAR BECKER for an attempt at murder on the person of the King of Prussia will come on before the Court of Assize of Burschau on the 23rd.



THE PNEUMATIC DESPATCH COMPANY'S TUBE AT BATTERSEA — THE TUBE, SHOWING THE ENTRANCE FOR CARRIAGES.



THE DISC FOR EXHAUSTING THE AIR-CHAMBER.



THE END OF TUBE IN THE ENGINE-HOUSE FOR THE EXIT OF CARRIAGES.

SEPT. 14, 1861.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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EDINBURGH.

OUR Engraving is taken from that marvellous water colour picture in which Turner caught the fleeting lights and changing haze that make the hoary castle and lofty hill one of the most beautiful scenes in the world. Perhaps no other painter could have done justice to the magnificent skyscape or the atmospheric distance, so seldom touched skilfully either in colour or treatment; but Turner delighted in this. All his pictures display a wonderful appreciation of air, and the light nebulous media through which distant objects both on sea and land are viewed. It is this qualification which brings to his pictures such a lifelike reality, such an appearance of motion to the waves, the trees, and the long grass on the wild hillside; such dimly mysterious and yet flowing perspectives as we are all conscious of having seen at favoured moments in that

sort of weather.

When clouds and sunshine mix together.

There is a charm about this picture of the old Castle Hill and Arthur's Seat standing above the modern Athens which is not often experienced in the treatment even of scenes dear and familiar.

With the ILLUSTRATED TIMES of SEPTEMBER 23 will be issued a FINISHED ENGRAVING, Printed on Superfine Paper, of ABSOLON'S WELL-KNOWN PICTURE entitled

SATURDAY NIGHT.

Price of the Paper and Engraving 4*l.*, or free by post five stamps. Orders should be given to the agents at least a week beforehand. Office, 2, Catherine-street.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1861.

STRIKES.

DR. WATTS, who has recently delivered at the meeting of the British Association at Manchester an interesting paper "On Strikes," deserves the thanks of the public. To deserve these he need not even be necessarily assumed to be right in his conclusions. Any man who can bring to bear upon a subject of such importance as this the power of an honest, intelligent mind is entitled to gratitude, whatever may be his deductions; for, if wrong, he holds out a premium to triumphant contradiction. It is only by neglect of argument that popular errors of judgment can hope to live. When exposed to calm controversy they perish.

It is for lack of the opportunity for impartial discussion of the subject in all its bearings that, as we conceive, strikes are still supported by the labouring classes. Dispassionate philosophers have again and again argued the question as to their utility or reasonableness. From the first indication of their establishment the voice of reason and of the press has been against them. The most condemnatory evidence opposed to them has been that of the weak, ill written, illogical letters penned by their supporters; for it is impossible to judge of the sufficiency of an attack except upon a discovery of the strength or feebleness of the defence.

Dr. Watts, as usual with rational persons unconnected with trades unions, takes a view adverse to the system of strikes. He points out a new argument to their disadvantage in reducing a strike for advance of wages to an arithmetical sum, and thereby demonstrating that, if a strike for 5 per cent last twelve months and a half, the increase of wages when gained will never compensate the workman for the loss of his pay and the interest. This is what one may term "a striking fact." In a less degree, the same principle prevails in strikes less limited in duration; thus—the loss of one month's wages requires to compensate it, at the increase we have named, one year and three-fifths. The associated colliers have, on Dr. Watts' authority, quoted from themselves, thrown away in strikes since 1852 about a quarter of a million, a sum which might, if well employed, have procured for the discontented the privilege of labouring in their own mines, for their own profit, as capitalists as well as labourers. But to this it must be added that the greater number of strikes fail utterly, so that not only is the labour of the strikers lost to the community, but they themselves, besides living in forced idleness upon the surplus of former industry, receive no compensation whatever. And, by living upon their former savings, it will at once be seen that they are actually by their own voluntary act reducing the rate of living. Thus if A, earning £50 per annum for four years, choose to live for a fifth upon his savings, it will easily be seen that he has by his own will reduced his subsistence for the whole term to £40 per annum. Here arises the question, "How is it, if strikes be so injurious to the workman, that the rule among the class in England is to support the societies which enforce them?" It must be admitted, as Dr. Watts admits freely, that strikes are not an unmixed evil. They are the mitigation of a prior and worse evil, that of secret associations, plottings, riots, and revenges. The progress which has led from these to the unions may in time lead the unionists to less injurious organisations. But the cause of support of these societies among the working men is not the strikes. Poll the working men on strike throughout England, and, if indemnified from all consequences, the great majority would most probably be eager to return to labour on the old terms. It is not for the facility of striking, but for the sake of the social communion, of old associations, and of future prospects, that the workman is content, or compelled, to merge his individuality in the "union." The "union" is, in fact, a huge benefit society; and, when masters invite their men to sign a declaration repudiating the "society," they demand of them to relinquish companionship with their class and all benefit of a kind of friendly assurance in case of distress, sickness, and death, after payment, possibly for years, for this express purpose. No wonder that the "declaration" failed and was withdrawn.

But it must be remembered that it was the aggression of the men which provoked it, and that its withdrawal left the men simply as they were before. The pretended triumph of the strike leaders at this result was a sad exposure of their unreasonableness. Still, there were evidently a large number of their followers who believed in the triumph, and this was sadder still. The saddest of all was that a still greater proportion of the society men must have seen the utter hollowness of the affair, but were forced to coincide with their "delegates," and to strike again at their will when commanded so to do.

Dr. Watts, in treating of this subject, puts forward an apology, satisfactory enough, for treating the matter fiscally—"I am aware," says he, "that I may be thought wrong to try to treat these great problems so exclusively by a money estimate; but let me explain that money is simply a convenient expression for the necessities and comforts of life, which represent life itself, with all its feelings, all its hopes, all its aspirations."

This should be well understood. Money is, no doubt, a "convenient expression." It may "represent" life, but it is not life; it is not the *summum bonum* of earthly aspirations, and those who treat it as such will fail, as must those who treat human life, with its aspirations, as "representing" money. The latter is the fault of the masters, who, apparently, getting bewildered between their men and their machines, treat their men as though they had no human hearts, and lavish on their machines every appliance necessary to the highest state of "going order." Only a few days since we read with disgust of several employers who had ordered off their premises with contumely representatives of the men upon strike. After such conduct, we cannot marvel that the men are not to be moved, even by indisputable demonstration from a pecuniary point of view.

It may be said that two wrongs cannot make a right; but in the physical body, perhaps in the body politic, there may be exceptions to this rule. The inflammation, far more painful than the wound itself, but which follows it, is Nature's system of healing. If strikes be utterly wrong, they will work themselves out; if right, they ought to and must succeed. In any event, the more constantly and earnestly the matter is agitated the more prompt and satisfactory is likely to be the settlement. Political economy, like nature, contains within itself its own remedial counteraction of the infringement of its laws.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has been graciously pleased to direct that the new general hospital at Woolwich shall be called the Herbert Hospital, out of respect to the memory of the late Lord Herbert, by whom the building was established.

HER MAJESTY has "recommended" the Dean and Chapter of Durham to elect Dr. Baring bishop of that diocese.

A MARRIAGE between the brother of the King of Portugal and the Princess of Savoy is talked of as in negotiation.

THE MARRIAGE of the Earl of Carnarvon and Lady Evelyn Stanhope, only daughter of the Earl and Countess of Chesterfield, was solemnised on Thursday forenoon in Westminster Abbey.

A FUNERAL MONUMENT IN BRONZE has been erected at St. Petersburg to the memory of Mdme. Boso by her husband, M. Xindavelon.

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE GREAT INCREASE OF STUDENTS who attend King's College, Strand, London, it has been found necessary to enlarge that portion of the building that stands on Strand-lane, and workmen are engaged in altering the upper lecture hall, by increasing its height.

THE WARRIOR, it is said, will, according to existing arrangements, positively leave the Thames for Portsmouth on or about the 21st inst.

A SERIES OF TRACTS HAS BEEN COMPILED, called "Tracts for Priests and People," which discusses some of the chief questions raised by the "Essays and Reviews."

J. A. MACHADO, a noted slave-dealer, has been arrested at New York, charged with having been engaged for several years past in the business of fitting out slaves from that port for the coast of Africa.

THE *Czas* declares that Lithuania is now in a far worse state than it ever was under the Emperor Nicholas.

THE FEDERAL STATE DEPARTMENT has issued a notice to the effect that the order relating to passports is not to apply, except in special cases, to travellers between the United States and the British provinces.

A PARIS LETTER IN THE *Indépendance* states that the late pamphlet is the production of two French writers—M. Lavarenne, devoted to the cause of Italy, and M. Leonce Dupont, formerly editor of the *Précureur of Antwerp*.

THE FOREMAN OF THE PLUMBERS AND GLAZIERS at the new Exhibition building, Kensington, while performing his duties on Saturday last, fell from a lofty scaffold to the ground (a distance of fifty feet), and was killed instantaneously.

MOST OF THE PROVINCIAL NEWSPAPERS give accounts of harvest-homes of a new and much-improved kind. Clergymen take the lead in them, and the labourers have rejoicing without debauchery.

MR. CHARLES MERCHANT, one of the inspectors of the permanent way on the Midland Railway, was run over and killed by a train at Melton last week.

IN THE THEATRE ROYAL, Greenock, last week, an unexpected interest was given to the burlesque of "Aladdin" by a seaman of the fleet leaping on the stage and knocking down two of the characters, who, he thought, were taking an unfair advantage of one of the dramatic persons in a combat.

THE MAN BEAMISH has undergone a final examination before the Coroner at Coventry, charged with having poisoned his wife and infant child. He was committed for trial.

THE INTENSITY OF THE PREVALENT HEAT is reported disastrous to the olive crop in Southern France; and a cry of distress in the matter of fish comes from Marseilles, where ice is not overabundant, it being hopeless to forward that commodity inland.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP DRIVER, mounting six guns, has been wrecked upon one of the keys which surround the Bahama Islands.

ANOTHER TELESCOPIC PLANET, the seventy-first, has been discovered by the indefatigable Dr. Luther, at the Observatory of Dusseldorf. It was first seen on the 13th ult., and has since been observed at other observatories. It was perceived at Dresden on the 20th, and has received the name of Niebe.

MR. DAVIES, an influential gentleman of Llangattock, Monmouthshire, shot himself dead a few days ago.

MR. PHILIP is said to have sold the products of his last campaign in Spain—some dozen canvases, perhaps—for no less a sum than £20,000. Two dealers are the purchasers.

THE UNITED STATES' GOVERNMENT have discontinued the subsidy to the Vanderbilt steamers running to the Pacific, and, in lieu thereof, have established a pony express to California across the Rocky Mountains.

WE LEARN FROM THE REPORT OF MR. MORTON, INSPECTOR OF MINES, that more than 850,000 tons of coal were raised in Yorkshire last year, and that the number of persons killed at the collieries was fifty, or one death for every 170,000 tons raised.

AN EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRIAL AND DECORATIVE ART, under the auspices of the Board of Manufactures, takes place in Edinburgh in November next, to which her Majesty contributes largely, sending shields, and vases of Sévres china (two vases valued at £1000 each).

LAST WEEK A FIRE BALLOON, started by a theatrical advertiser, descended into the grounds of the gun wharf at Portsmouth—rather a dangerous settlement for such a visitor. Fortunately, it was soon extinguished.

MRS. EDWIN JAMES has had the misfortune to be robbed of her jewellery, valued at £1400, at an hotel at Long Branch, a fashionable watering-place in the neighbourhood of New York, where Mr. and Mrs. Edwin James have been sojourning since their arrival in America.

THE WIFE OF A LABOURING MAN NAMED CHARLES SMITH, residing at Steeple, near Reading, gave birth a few days since to three fine boys, all of whom, with the mother, are doing well.

AN IMPRESSION seems to be very general at Liverpool that passengers to or from the United States require to be cautioned at the present juncture against any ready expression of their opinions on the civil war.

THE CHANNEL FLEET under the command of Rear-Admiral Robert Smart, K.H., has been ordered to Carrickfergus, where it is expected the ships will remain for some days.

THE "ESSAYS AND REVIEWS" are now in process of translation into Gujerate by a Parsee gentleman at present in London, who intends publishing his translation for the use of inquiring minds among his countrymen in India.

JOHANN DAVID PASSAVANT, the German art-historian, died at Frankfort on the 12th ult., aged seventy-four.

A BILL is to be brought into the House of Assembly at Jamaica, when it next meets, to promote steam communication round that island, in connection with the New York and Liverpool line of steamers.

HAROLD POWER, a son of the late Tyrone Power, whose Irish characters are in the pleasant remembrance of many, has just entered the theatrical profession under the name of Page.

MONTALEMBERT'S PAPER, the *Amie de la Religion*, publishes a protest, signed by 132 Neapolitan Dukes, Marquises, Princes, Counts, &c., against the statements of Riccasoli as to brigandage in Southern Italy.

GENERAL TIRRIS has contradicted the contradiction as to his marriage with Miss Wyse, and says:—"I have the honour of being accepted by Madle. Adeline Bonaparte Wyse, with the consent of her mother, and the King grants me permission to marry her."

AN ELDERLY LADY, name unknown, was killed on the Great Western Railway last week. She was seen going on the line, but too late to stop the train, which went over her and killed her on the spot.

AN IMPERATIVE ORDER has been issued by the Horse Guards to the Lord Lieutenant of the county of Dorsetshire directing the immediate dissolution of the 2nd Dorset Artillery Volunteers.

AN ATTEMPT was made to upset a railway train near Brentwood, a few days ago, by placing a railway chair on the line. Happily the obstruction was observed, and no damage done. A reward has been offered for the discovery of the perpetrators, and it is expected they will shortly be apprehended.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON is expected to return to England about the middle of October, and immediately after to enter upon his diocesan duties.

IRON SHIPBUILDING ON THE TYNE is very active, and the various establishments at Jarrow, Walker, and Shields are brisk, with large orders on hand.

THE REV. SAMUEL WIX, M.A., Vicar of St. Bartholomew the Less, Smithfield, the oldest clergyman in London, has just died, in the ninety-first year of his age and the sixty-third of his ministry.

SIR BOUCHIER PALK WRAY, BART., has made over the whole of the game on his North Devon property, in the parishes of Tawstock, Tawton, Justow, and Braunton, to the occupying tenants. Each tenant will have the game on his own farm by the payment of a small sum for such farm per acre per annum.

THE LANDLADY of a tavern at Camberwell left her keys in her cash cupboard, and on turning round she saw a man coming out of the parlour, cashbox in hand, containing £407. Taking a pistol from one of the drawers, she instantly fired, the man receiving the contents in his arm or shoulder, causing him to drop the box. The fellow made his escape.

THE ESTATE OF BROOMLEE, Peebles-shire, has been purchased by Professor Ferguson, of King's College, London, the eminent surgeon, for £12,000.

A CRICKET-MATCH between All England and Australia has been arranged. The representatives of the old country are H. H. Stephenson, Caffyn, E. Stephenson, Mordlock, Griffith, Sewell, Wells, Tom Hearne, G. Bennett, Maudie, Lawrence, and Iddison, who will proceed to the antipodes on October 18 in the Great Britain.

WILLIAM LYON MACKENZIE, the leader of the Canadian rebellion some years since, died at Toronto, on Aug. 28, in his 67th year. Mr. Mackenzie was a native of Dundee, where he was born in 1794.

SOME ADDITIONAL REGIMENTS are about to be sent to Canada, to further reinforce the troops in that colony. No selection has yet been made of the corps to be dispatched on this duty.

THE GREAT EASTERN sailed on Tuesday afternoon at 3.30 for New York with upwards of 400 passengers and a general cargo.

ACCORDING TO THE *Nazione*, the number of exhibitor in the Italian Exhibition exceeds 6000.

KING VICTOR EMANUEL is to leave Turin on the 14th for Florence, in order to open the Exhibition in that city on the following day.

MM. SIRTORI, BIXIO, MEDICI, TURE, AND COZENS are named Commanders of the Military Order of Savoy.

BEN CAUNT, the ex-champion of England, died suddenly on Tuesday morning, at his residence, the Coach and Horses, St. Martin's-lane.

UP TO WITHIN THE LAST FEW DAYS the cuckoo has been heard in the Isle of Wight. The lingering of the cuckoo so long in this country is unusual, and is owing, no doubt, to the remarkable long-continued summer weather.

A LARGE NUMBER OF TROOPS is to be raised in California for the purpose of protecting the overland emigrant route.

BY A DECREE, dated the 24th of August, the sum of £24,800 has been granted by the French Government for deepening the entrance and fairway of the port of Boulogne, so as to permit steamers to enter at nearly all times of the tide.

FROM THE WEST COAST OF AFRICA we learn that the territory of Lagos has been ceded by the King to the British Crown, and that a commercial treaty favourable to British and French interests had been negotiated with the King of Bodaboo.

A LETTER FROM THE HAGUE in the *Brussels Indépendance* says:—"Cardinal Wiseman has been here for some days, and has had the honour of a private audience of the King and Queen. He is still in a suffering state."

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS DE MONTPENSIER embarked on Sunday from the Green Bank Hotel, Falmouth, on board the Don Antonio Ulloa steamer, and sailed for Santander on Monday morning, with light winds and very fine weather.

A LETTER from Vienna says:—"The national German movement is making more rapid progress and spreading wider than is generally known. By the beginning of the next year either the Prussian dynasty must head the movement, or the people of Germany will elect their own rulers."

ORDERS have just been sent from Turin to the Mint at Naples to coin silver pieces to the amount of 12,000,000*l.*, and gold to that of 1,200,000*l.*

THE WHEAT CROP OF IOWA, in the United States, is abundant this season. It is estimated that the surplus will be 20,000,000 bushels.

ONE OF THE SEVEN GUN-BOATS ordered by the United States' Congress for the war has just been launched at Philadelphia. Her length is 108*t.* *s.*, and she is 33*t.* beam and 13*t.* hold. She will carry four 32-pounders and two 11-inch guns. She will be fit for sea about Oct. 1.

THE CROCODILE of the Zoological Gardens at Marseilles died suddenly a few nights back. It had been previously in perfect health.

BANKRUPTCIES are increasing fearfully in France. According to official returns there were only 354 bankruptcies declared throughout France in the year 1855. They increased to 3717 in 1856. The following year there were 3975 bankrupts gazetted, and in the year 1858 they rose to 4330. The official returns for the years 1859 and 1860 have not yet been received.

PEDESTRIANISM.—A running match which has excited considerable interest was decided at the White Lion, Hackney Wick, last week. A red Indian from America, named Deerfoot, was matched to run six miles against Edward Mills, an Englishman, for £50. After a severe contest the race resulted in victory for Mills. The Indian was said to be too fat, and not in good training.

A VERY PRETTY QUARREL.—Lord Palmerston has already got into hot water at Dover. There have been certain changes recently made in the harbour board of that port, and, amongst other matters consequent thereon, it became necessary to elect a registrar to the board, and a Mr. George Fielding, who previously held the office, seemed to have considered himself entitled to re-election. Lord Palmerston, however, thought otherwise, and gave his support to a Mr. Stilwell, who was therupon elected by a majority; and a very pretty quarrel has arisen in consequence. Mr. Fielding has resigned his commission as Lieutenant in the Dover Volunteer, and very harsh words are being freely applied to the Lord Warden's conduct—"Whig jobbery," "Dirty w^rc^d," "Ingratitude for the late hospitable reception given him," and so forth, being the mildest form of obloquy indulged in. It is likely, however, that there are two sides to this as to every other question; and we doubt if the local squabbles of Dover are likely to interest the general public, or the affair to prove the "most untoward event of Lord Palmerston's late official life," as some of the Dover worthies seem to fancy.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

The death of the Earl of Mount-Edgecumbe takes Lord Valletort to the Upper House, and makes a vacancy in the representation of Plymouth. The Earl's death will be no great loss to the House of Lords, nor will Lord Valletort be missed in the House of Commons. Both father and son were mere cogs in the political machine—the father, indeed, hardly that, for he was seldom in his place. Lord Valletort was a young member of the Lower House. He came in no longer ago than 1859, and though his attendance was intermittent it was as sure as that of young Lords of his class generally is. At all events, he came when he was wanted, and voted as he was bidden; and what right had his constituents or his country to expect more of a young Lord than that? Lord Valletort, during the two years that he has been in Parliament, has never, that I recollect, essayed to speak; indeed, we may be sure that he did not enter into the House with any such idea as speaking, or even of listening. If, at intervals when he could spare the time from more congenial employments, he lounged down now and then to see what was up, and rushed down posthaste when dunng by the whips, he did all that was required and expected, except to serve on committees when chosen. That he must do, for most of these committees are chosen by ballot, and the ballot-box does not respect persons. There are many young members—and indeed some old of the class to which Lord Valletort belongs in the House; but, at first sight, it seems rather strange that one of this class should be chosen to represent so large a constituency as that of Plymouth. It must, however, be remembered that at Plymouth there is a dockyard where thousands of men are employed, many of whom have votes, or, if they have not votes, they have influence over fathers, brothers, &c., who have; and, further, that there are numbers of tradesmen more or less connected with the dockyard, and, of course, more or less influenced by the authorities; and, lastly, that the Earl of Mount-Edgecumbe lived at Edgecumbe, close to the town; laid out, no doubt, a deal of money in Plymouth; and by his hospitalities at Edgecumbe stood in high favour with the neighbouring clergy and gentry, who, in the aggregate, laid out a deal more; and, putting this and that together—the Government influence, the Edgecumbe personal influence, and what is facetiously termed "the mahogany influence"—it will not be thought surprising that even Plymouth, with its 2700 electors, should have chosen my Lord Valletort. Indeed, I happen to know that all these influences were brought to bear with tremendous effect against poor Mr. White, the present member for Brighton, in 1859. But what of the coming election? Well, that remains to be seen. First, will an Edgecumbe start for Plymouth? There is a younger son of the late Earl, of age, the Hon. Charles Ernest, born in 1838; and I have heard a rumour that he is to be brought into the field. There will be, however, some little arrangements in money matters to be made which may, perhaps, prove a difficulty. The father is dead; younger sons have seldom spare cash to contest a place like Plymouth, and elder brothers are not fond of supplying the cash for younger brothers. This I have often observed. Meanwhile two Liberals are in the field—a Mr. Morrison and a Mr. Pope. Mr. Morrison is a Radical, and so is Mr. Pope; but, super-added to his Radicalism, Mr. Pope seems to advocate a Maine Liquor Law. It is a foolish idea. He might as well advocate the return of the curfew because of the fires, or the restoration of stage-coaches because of railway accidents. It will be surprising if Plymouth pronounces for such a project as this. But Mr. Pope may let in a Conservative if he keeps on the ground. In conclusion, it must be remembered that in 1859 the Conservatives were in power, and of course held the Dockyard screw; but now the screw has changed hands. I apprehend that all the "dealers in marine stores" will vote against the Government candidate, for the inauguration of the new police in the dockyards by the present Ministry has administered a heavy blow and great discouragement to these gentlemen. But, then, their number is but small now; for no sooner did "the Bobbies" come to look after the copper sheathing, bolts, and nails, than more than one-half of these worthies I am told, closed their shops and decamped. We may be sure, however, that those who remain will be intensely Conservative; and, as certain ignorant people clamoured when the Calendar was reformed, "Give us back our lost days," I should not be surprised if these worthies were to cry out for a restoration of their dockyard perquisites; for I am assured by people on the spot that these stolen perquisites had almost come to be considered as "rights" from Plymouth to the Land's End, and, indeed, more or less in all the dockyard localities. Our representative machine is noble one on the whole, but when we look at it closely it is moved by strange forces.

Mr. Denison wants to have another new bell cast as the striking bell of the clock in the tower of Westminster Palace; but I rather fancy that he will not get what he wants, for in truth, apart from the objection on the score of expense, Big Ben was a big bore to all the neighbourhood. In the daytime his roaring tones were hardly bearable, but at night they were a perfect nuisance. Even in the House of Commons it was not pleasant to the orator to have this monster booming overhead every hour; but to the Speaker, Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant-Sergeant, and clerk Dom. Com., whose houses are just underneath the tower, the effect must have been terrific. Just imagine these officials retiring to rest after a long and exciting night—getting snugly to sleep, and then being startled out of their pleasant dreams by the thunderous bangs of this monster echoing round the quadrangle, and shaking the windows of their rooms, and even the beds on which they lay. No, no, Mr. Denison! you will have no more Big Ben's cast, you may be sure, for, like Macbeth, "they do murder sleep."

It is, I see, stated that the Hon. George Waldegrave, the Speaker's secretary, is likely to stand for Plymouth; but I do not believe it. That Mr. Waldegrave would like to get into Parliament I have reason to know, and he is a very proper man to be a member of Parliament. Since he has held the office of secretary to the Speaker he has shown that he possesses talents and a remarkable aptitude for business, whilst his courtesy and attention have made him universally popular in the House; and there would be a propriety in his entering Parliament, for there is no family in England that has been more closely connected with the House of Commons than the ancient family of Waldegrave. The third or fourth Speaker (I forget which) on the rolls was a member of this family; the late Speaker is Mr. Waldegrave's uncle; and, if I remember rightly, this family, in the direct line and in its collateral branches, has given no less than seven Speakers to the House. Mr. Waldegrave was an active officer of the Hastings Corps of the Cinque Ports Volunteers; but, having married the Countess of Rothes (Countess in her own right), he has left Hastings to take his position in Fifeshire.

I lately met with the following passage from Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations," which, now that the subject of combinations amongst workmen is under discussion, may be interesting to your readers:—"We rarely hear, it has been said, of the combination of masters, though frequently of those of workmen. But whoever imagines, upon this account, that masters rarely combine is as ignorant of the world as of the subject. Masters are always and everywhere in a sort of tacit but constant and uniform combination not to raise the wages of labour above their actual rate. To violate the combination is everywhere a most unpopular action, and a sort of reproach to a master among his neighbours and equals. We seldom, indeed, hear of this combination, because it is the usual, and we may say the natural, state of things, which nobody ever hears of. Masters, too, sometimes enter into particular combinations to sink the wages of labour even below this rate."

The lounging portion of the Londoners left in town had the choice of two very agreeable places of resort on Wednesday—the one being the review of cadets at the Crystal Palace, and the other the flower show at the Horticultural Gardens, Kensington; but for my part, deeming it my duty to be present at both exhibitions, I found

the performance of said duty no lounging matter, for, considering that both were in progress at the same time, and remembering the distance that intervenes between Kensington and the Crystal Palace, you will allow that to obtain a glimpse of both the flowers and the cadets must have involved a degree of activity somewhat inconsistent with my usual loitering habits. I must say, however, that the exertion was well rewarded, for both exhibitions were well worth seeing. The number of cadets at the review was 872, and their evolutions, which were gone through under the direction of Major Mayne, of the Queen's Westminster Rifles, were exceedingly well performed, and creditable alike to the care of the instructors and the aptness of the pupils. A more promising body of young soldiers I have never seen, and have no hesitation in indorsing the commendations passed upon them by Major Mayne.

The show of flowers at Kensington was also quite equal to anything of the kind I have ever seen. There were dahlias of every variety and colour, and in the greatest possible perfection. But the collection was not confined to dahlias. Late as it is in the season, there were roses which I have rarely, if ever, seen surpassed; and also a fine display of hollyhocks, and China, German, and French asters, as well as phloxes, lilies, and other flowers. The arrangement and grouping were admirable; and altogether a finer floral display for the season could not be desired. Of course, too, there was a large assemblage of flowers of another kind—the ladies ministered in great force, and added not a little to the beauty as well as the animation and interest of the scene; and when I add that the proceedings were enlivened by the strains of two fine military bands, I think I have said enough to prove that a more agreeable lounging-place than the Horticultural Gardens were on Wednesday could not well be conceived.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

By my conduct during the last fortnight I have forfeited my title to be called the Lounger, except it be conceded that I am unmoved by railway accidents, and treat "frightful collisions" as casualties not to be dwelt upon too strictly. I might then perhaps have spent a few comfortable minutes in the soft, first class compartment of a fast train. After lounging at Dover, where I had to undergo that process of slack-baking peculiar to the chalk cliffs of Kent, I certainly did think I might count on a quiet week or two at a certain seaside haunt, where I should utterly eschew all special news, all theatres, all "life," but very still life indeed. I fondly believed that the season was well over, and that only such erratic stars as shine for a few days and vanish would occupy the London boards for weeks to come. But the end of it was that when I had established myself with a loose coat, a pair of whitey-brown slippers, and a morning paper, at a bay window overlooking the "ribbed sea-sand," I became conscious that "things are not as they used to be" by the startling announcement of a sudden, premature, and utterly unnatural revivification of theatrical performances all over London, and felt that I must abandon the enjoyment of "mine ease" at the seaside, and reluctantly lie me back to London to look into this unwonted and unreasonable state of things. There is only one way of accounting for it. The actors and managers only pretended to take a holiday, and, after going to Margate by an excursion-train which returned the next day, reopened their theatres, fondly believing that all the critics had gone out of town. And the curious part of it is that they find supporters; and although it is usual to represent London as being empty, and to say that nobody stays long after Parliament is up, here sit the glorious British public—a perspiring, amused, goodhumoured, hot, and thirsty audience.

Well, they have had some novelties provided for them. At the HAYMARKET a new three-act comedy has been produced from the pen of Mr. Charles Mathews, under the title of "The Soft Sex," in which, of course, the author plays a principal part. The piece is slight and farcical in its construction, and has the peculiar merit of dealing with strong-minded women, a subject long ago becoming triste. There has been some discussion in consequence of its having been stated that the piece is an adaptation from "Les Femmes Fortes." Although it may be differently treated, it is very likely that the French play had something to do with it.

At SADLER'S WELLS Mr. Phelps has commenced his season by a very complete revival of "The Hunchback," in which Mrs. Bowers, an American actress, is introduced to the London public in the character of Julia. Although perhaps deficient in vigour, Mrs. Bowers is a good actress, who has sufficient originality to discard the merely traditional renderings of her part, and certainly gains by the loss of that stagey manner which is too often associated with the play in which she has appeared to an educated audience. The part of Miss Valerian is finely sustained by Mr. Phelps, that of Helen by Miss Murray, and Sir Thomas Clifford by Mr. Edmund Phelps.

The STRAND campaign also opened with a revival of "The Post-boy," but they have since produced a new comic drama in one act, alas! adapted from the French, and, of course, of the very slightest materials. Mr. Byron's "Aladdin; or, the Wonderful Seamp," is still running on to a lively and appreciative audience.

At the LYCEUM Mr. Falconer's new comedy is more successful than is usual with the temporary performances at that theatre during the interval of its occasional season. That the success is deserved may be inferred from the fact that a new comedy which neither degenerates into burlesque nor tires the audience is a true novelty nowadays. "Woman; or, Love against the World," has roused the critics, at all events; and even the Saturday Review, whose praise, like a piece of plum-cake with a stone in it, generally contains a sneer, devotes an article to the consideration of this genuine and unadapted piece.

The SURREY reopened on Saturday last with a drama entitled "The Idiot of the Mountain;" also an operetta called "Shakspeare's Dream." The drama, which is evidently of French extraction, produces several striking situations, and evidently interested the audience highly. Both drama and operetta are remarkable for excellent scenery, one or two scenes in each being equal to any I have ever seen on the Surrey stage. A scene of a smugglers' hut on a mountain peak, shown by moonlight, with drifting clouds, and another of a fairy-haunted glade, by twilight, are alone well worth paying to see.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is expected to return to Cambridge in the October Term, for the purpose of prosecuting his University education. After attending the great Prussian military manoeuvres, and visiting his sister, the Crown Princess of Prussia, the Prince will pass a few days at Balmoral before going on to Cambridge, or, rather, to Madingey Hall, his former residence near that town. On Tuesday his Royal Highness presented a new stand of colours to the 36th Regiment, to replace the old and tattered standards under which the regiment has often and gallantly fought. The 36th forms part of the brigade to which the Prince has been attached during his sojourn at the Curzon.

A NEW BRANCH OF INDUSTRY.—The island of Jersey being happily free from custom-house obstructions, a new line of business has lately sprung up there. This is neither more nor less than colouring Japanned tea in order to make it look like Chinese green, and thus become more valuable in the London market. Many females are employed to change it from the natural dark olive to the artificial bluish hue, as seen when sold in the shops: the change being effected nearly in the same manner as confectioners colour the surface of sugarplums for children. It is surely absurd to incur an expense to make tea unwholesome for the sake of having the leaf more inviting to the eye, as the powdered mineralis, of course, was hed off, and drink when the infusion is taken at the tea table. The Japanese fashion of using Masters, too, sometimes enter into particular combinations to sink the wages of labour even below this rate."

A MOVE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.—Additional signal-inspectors are to be placed on the South-Western line, so that the signal machinery on the line may be more frequently examined and reports of disarrangement promptly attended to. Additional men are also to be employed in opening and shutting the railway-gates on the line, in order that the men may not be so long on duty and liable to become in consequence wearied and inattentive.

Literature.

POETRY.

AMONG recently-published books which we did not notice, for want of space at the time of their appearance, are two volumes of poetry which demand a few words at our hands—one by Gerald Massey, the other bearing on the titlepage two names, "Neville Temple and Edward Trevor," which we understood to stand for Owen Meredith (young Bulwer) and the Hon. Julian Fane. This is not the first appearance of the latter gentleman. In the year 1852 Messrs. Pickering published a volume of "Poems" by him which contained some little matters pretty enough to have left marks on our mind—two in particular, one beginning

The lad who holds his honour fast,
and the other Kathleen, my saint, that art in heaven.

The share Mr. Fane has taken in the composition of "Tannhäuser, or the Battle of the Bards" (second edition, Chapman and Hall), is of course not easily determinable; but we should be inclined to tick off to him the majority of the lines with double endings, which are very numerous.

The mediæval legend of "Tannhäuser" is pretty well known, being contained in a ballad in "The Boy's Wonder-horn," with a reference to fuller authorities appended. A Christian knight, who loves a pure and gracious girl, is tempted to break every tie of love and religious faith by paying a visit to the goddess Venus in the mountain retreat to which she had fled after the decay of the old Paganism. After a long stay, he is brought to repentance, and goes to Rome for absolution. The Vicar of God says, "Sooner shall the dry staff I hold put forth bud and flower than pardon be yours after a crime so damnable." The maiden lover dies, and Tannhäuser too; but the staff does put forth leaf and flower, and the Pope is accordingly stultified, though the unlogical mediæval mind did not trouble itself to draw an inference from the fact. This is a very beautiful story, and would have been beautifully told by a man like Fouqué, but, we are sorry to say—because we do not like to appear churlish—that we cannot indorse the judgment of some of our contemporaries about the manner in which "Neville Temple" and "Edward Trevor" have done their work. It has been done too hastily, and to an experienced eye cannot pass for anything but the mere rough sketch of a poem. In noticing the last volume of "Owen Meredith" we quoted two remarkable instances of objectionable "reminiscence," and "Tannhäuser" reads, in the main, like the work of a man whose mind is saturated with the best poetry, and who has a very wonderful faculty of imitation. The first three or four pages echo the Miltonic rhythm with such success that when the author drops it and begins in a new key you fancy he must have begun it only for "a lark." On the whole, in short, "Tannhäuser" is a failure, and "Owen Meredith," at least, will some day recognise it for one.

We are also unable to speak in words of warm praise of Mr. Massey's "Havelock's March, and other Poems." We are still most positively of the opinion we once before expressed in these columns, that "Poor Old Gran," from which we then gave some verses, is the best thing Mr. Massey ever wrote; and that the vein in which it was written is that in which he succeeds. Mr. Massey is a great deal too ready to take up any enthusiasm of the hour and make verses about it. We have here Havelock, Garibaldi, Hugh Miller, William Peel, the Rifle Volunteers, and—Tom Sayers, all "done" with that peculiar mannerism of jingling heartiness which passes in a song at a public dinner, but will never do when the poet proposes to "smite his lyre" (we believe that is the phrase) in earnest. Robert Blake and our old sea-dogs having been a popular topic lately, and Mr. Massey is ready with something about them also. The same with the "Norseman," who has also been the fashion, and not a bad fashion. It is no discredit to any man to have written verses about "Norse" heroes; but it is a great discredit for any man to have written this couplet:—

Valiant and true, as eagles tell,
The Norseman hated lies like hell.

which is too ridiculously the reverse of the fact to require that we should dwell upon it. This sort of writing comes of that second-hand enthusiasm of which Mr. Massey cannot escape the suspicion so long as he is ready to write Burns' prize poems and tag rhymes to the last new book at Mudie's. We do hope Mr. Massey is not under the impression that the following verse is poetry, or even decent writing. We call it claptrap:—

GARIBALDI.

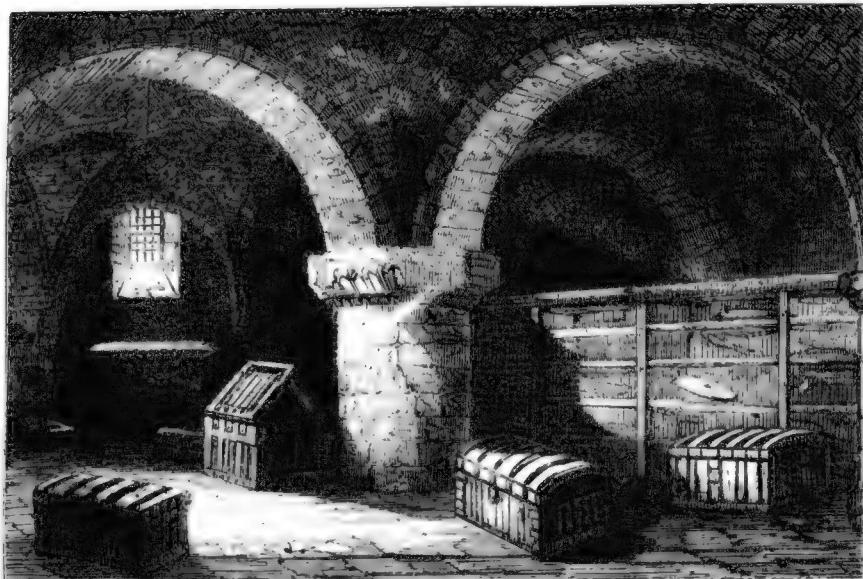
He is the helper that Italy wanted
To free her from fitters and cerements quite;
His is the great heart no dangers have daunted;
His is the true hand to finish the fight.
Way, for a man of the kingliest nature!
Scope, for a soul of the high Roman stature!
His great deeds have crown'd him,
His heroes are round him;
On, on, Garibaldi, for Freedom and Right!

The best thing in the book, for all its ruggedness, is "News of Christie." It has the (for Mr. Massey) extraordinary merit of being free from glitter and gewgaw, and holding its poetry in simple solution, that poetry lying in a tender suggestion, not too obvious and not too remote, which goes straight to the heart of the reader:—

NEWS OF CHRISTIE.
We read your letters—no word lost;
All, all is remembered;
And sometimes when there is no post,
Once more are the old ones read,
Of all she did we love to hear,
And how the days have sped;
But to our listening hearts most dear
Is something "Christie said."

HEREFORD MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—The triennial festival of the three choirs of Bristol, Gloucester, and Hereford opened in the latter city on Tuesday with great success. The weather was magnificent, and the attendance of visitors large. The artists engaged were nearly the same as those who took part in the Birmingham Festival, all of whom were in first-rate voice; while the local choirs were fully equal to sustain their well-earned reputation. "Elijah" was the opening oratorio, which was executed throughout in admirable style, and gave immense satisfaction to all concerned. The morning service was well attended, and the receipts of the day amounted to £227 8s. 8d., being an advance over 1858 of £130. Between 500 and 600 persons were present at the performances of the oratorio. On Wednesday Spohr's "Last Judgment" and Handel's "Samson" were performed; and evening concerts have also been given, with satisfactory results.

THE ILICIDERS' STRIKE.—Reports are being daily received by the masons' strike committee from the various country jobs, stating that the men have ceased working on them, in compliance with the instructions of their executive council; and delegates are still occupied in visiting the larger and more distant jobs to see that the resolution is properly carried out, and they report that the whole of them will be stopped by Saturday (to-day). The masters, in the meantime, have not been idle, and agents have been dispatched round the country to see the men and induce them to remain at work. Generally, however, these efforts fail, and large numbers of men are now out on strike. The Bristol executive council have informed the London committee that it is their determination to defeat the hour system at any amount of pecuniary cost. A levy will, if necessary, be placed on all members working, which it is calculated will produce about £300 per week, and this, it is expected, with the strike-pay and grants of money promised by other societies, will provide funds amply sufficient for all the men withdrawn from work for some months to come. The bricklayers are also about throwing their weight into the scale in favour of the masons, and their strike committee are about concentrating their efforts upon three of the larger works in London, where the withdrawal of their men will necessitate the stoppage of the masons who have been obtained by the employers in place of the men on strike.



THE PIX OFFICE, WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

THE OFFICE OF THE PIX.

PERIODICALLY there occurs some strange o'd ceremony, which, after causing a surprised and often half-impatient smile to overspread the expressive countenance of that tremendous individual the British Public, is a matter for a day's gossip in newspaper columns, for a little display of antiquarian lore or scholarly research, and is then almost forgotten until some further occasion arises for its revivification. We have lately been made aware of the recurrence of some such ceremony in the trial of the pix, which came off recently for the first time these several years, and was, no doubt, remembered by those who understood all its true, though perhaps hidden, meanings, as a valuable institution not to be lightly spoken of or wantonly superseded.

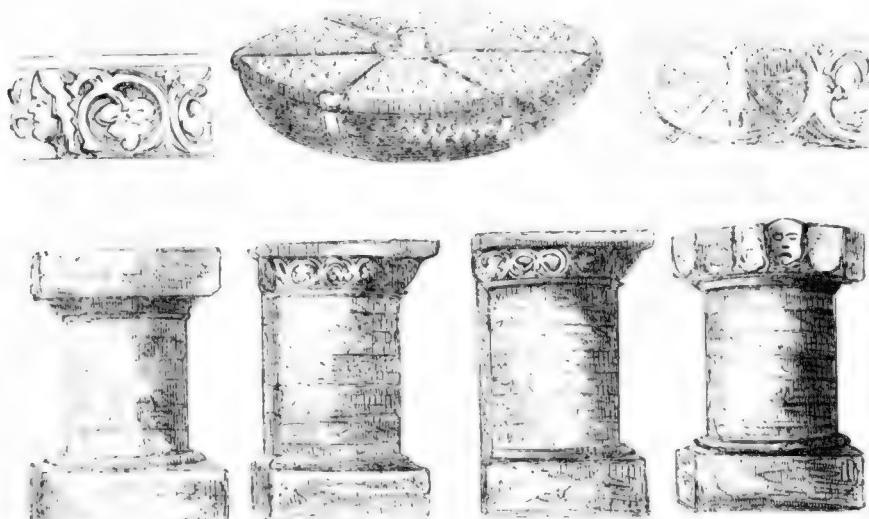
The assay of the coinage of the country cannot at all events be an unimportant duty, and this is what the trial of the pix really means, for in the quaint, picturesque-looking building forming a portion of Westminster Abbey, the ceremony of attesting the currency has been performed for centuries. Here in mysterious security are preserved the standards of weight and the degree of purity of that greatest of all British institutions, the British money, and on certain occasions—generally at the commencement of the reign of a new Monarch—the chamber is opened. At all other times the keys of vault and coffers are in the care of the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Master of the Mint, and the Master of the Goldsmiths' Company; though how many keys there are, and whether they are divided, one a-piece amongst these four gentlemen, or whether each takes his spell at them, we are not in a position to explain. All four functionaries have to be present before the seals placed upon the various locks can be removed, however; and thus it becomes almost impossible for the enthusiastic antiquary or the artist to gain admission for the prosecution of their several pursuits. The crypt, however, is highly interesting, for it is one of the few remaining buildings of Anglo-Saxon date, and besides the Pix Office there are some portions of the Abbey which are generally overlooked.

The visitor may, however, by passing to the green cloisters leading from Dean's-yard, and looking through the openings at the southwest corner, obtain a view of part of the exterior of the south transept, which is formed of massive Norman masonry. The great circular arch may at this point be seen distinctly. Passing from here, and proceeding down the south side of the cloister, will be seen, near some recumbent figures of the old abbots, a semicircular archway of small size, but the Saxon stonework of which is of enormous strength. More than a thousand years have passed since the "dark" or "little cloister" was built, and yet the stonework is singularly perfect, and looks solid enough, if cared for, to last ten centuries longer. It is from this part of the abbey that a door thickly clamped with iron leads to the Office of the Pix.

It is perhaps fortunate, as admission to this place is so rare, that Mr. G. G. Scott has collected some admirable drawings of this and other parts of the famous building, in order to illustrate his lecture on Westminster Abbey delivered at the Institute of Architects. Amongst the chests and other objects there is one, particularly noticeable, represented in our Engraving: it is an old leather case, bound with iron, and ornamented with a diaper of fleurs-de-lis.

Attempts have from time to time been made to have this portion of the abbey rendered accessible to the public, but hitherto no favourable reply has been the result with respect to the Pix Office; and, indeed, it must be remembered that it was originally selected as a place of privacy and security for the important ceremony of assaying the coin—its character for seclusion and safety being increased from its lying within the sacred precincts, and being close to the Parliamentary officials frequently assembling in the Chapter House hard by.

If there could be found any equally eligible place for depositing the pix, the public would certainly be benefited, since those of them (and they are many) who are interested in ancient relics, would thus have opened to them a crypt of the date of Edward the Confessor.



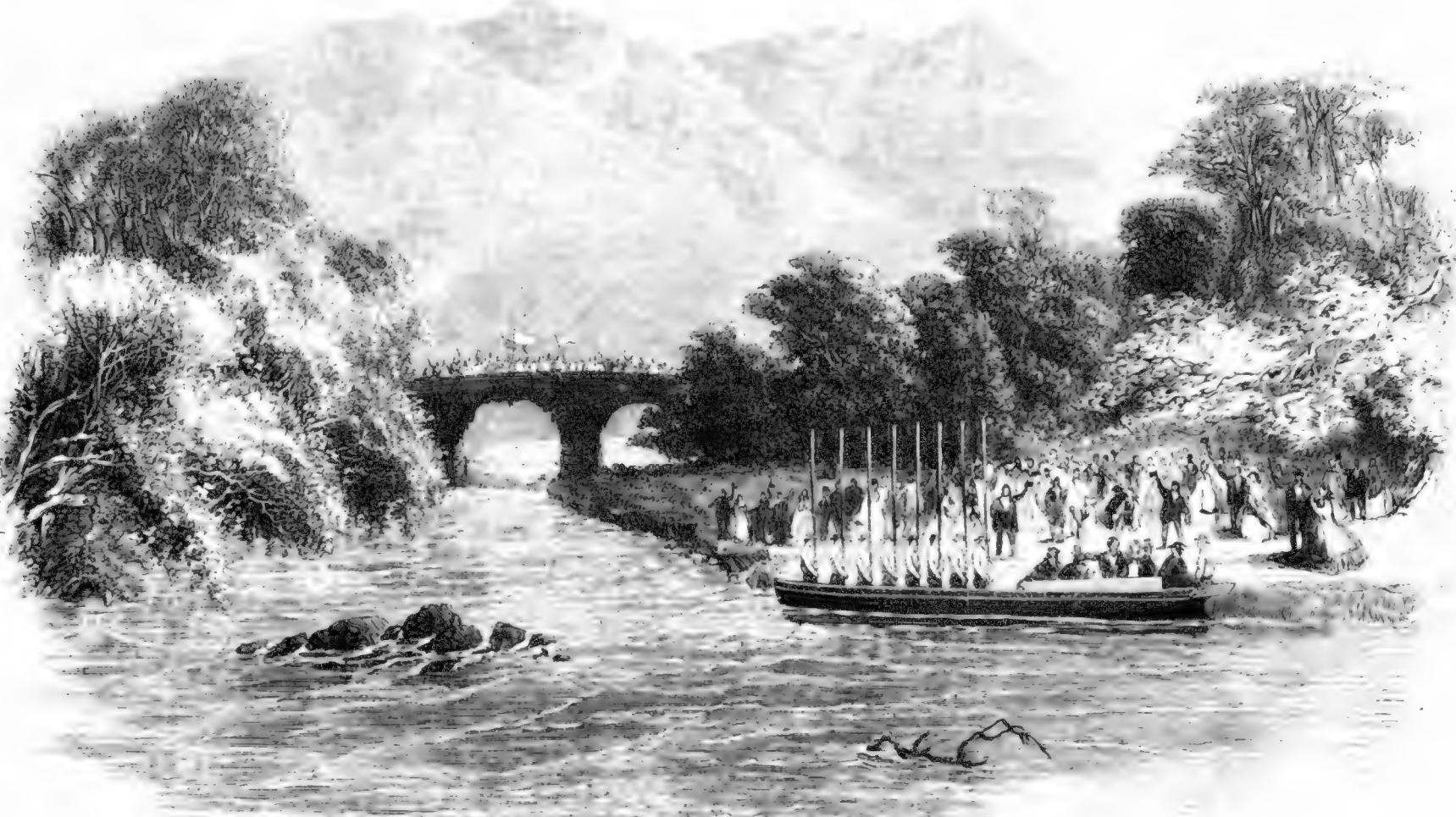
DETAILS FROM THE PIX OFFICE

Doubtless, now that new buildings are being provided in which the national records are gradually being deposited, there will be some change in the place of performing the assay and in the custody of the standards. On the exterior of the dormitories of the Westminster scholars some more circular arches are visible, and in many parts of the collegiate buildings are found fragments, of various antiquity, well worthy of examination; and, entered from the cloisters, is a library in which are many rare books and manuscripts.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO KILLARNEY.

THE OLD WEIR BRIDGE.

THE Lakes of Killarney, world-famous as their beauty has long been, are likely henceforth to have a greater attraction than ever, her Majesty's visit having given the prestige of Royal interest to scenes well worthy of notice for their own intrinsic merits. The illustrations we last week published must have given our readers a vivid idea of the singular and romantic beauty of these lakes, as well as of the interest which is naturally attached to a Royal visit to them for the first time. Another sketch has since come to hand, and, as the scene depicted is itself one of the finest on the lakes, and is taken from a point close to where many of the peculiar beauties of Killarney concentrate themselves, we deem no apology necessary for presenting it to the public. Close by is the Long Range, marvellous for the beauty of its echoes; the Eagle's Nest, towering to the clouds, and the home for ages of the monarch of birds; above is the Upper Lake, with all its wonderful effects of light and shadow; and, immediately below, the Middle Lake, which, but for its proximity to the Upper, would be in itself enough to repay a visit to "old county Kerry." The approach to the Eagle's Nest, of which we gave a View last week, is, says Arthur Young, "wonderfully fine; the river leads directly to its foot, and does not give the turn till immediately under, by which means the view is much more grand than it could otherwise be. It is nearly perpendicular, and rises in full majesty, with so bold an outline and



HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO KILLARNEY.—DISEMBARKATION OF THE ROYAL PARTY AT THE OLD WEIR BRIDGE.



"GENEVIEVE."—(FROM A PICTURE BY H. TIDEY.)

such projecting masses" in its "centre" that the magnificence of the object is complete." About a mile from the Eagle's Nest is the old Weir Bridge, the spot depicted in our Illustration, composed of two arches, confining the channel so as to render the passage, after heavy rains, of some danger, and make it prudent for passengers to land, as her Majesty did in ascending the lakes. On coming down again, the usual course is to "shoot the bridge," as it is called—that is, to take in the oars, and, with a skilful guide to direct the boat, let it be carried through by the force of the current. This was the course her Majesty and the Royal party adopted, and the sensation of the rapid motion of the frail skiff through the whirling waters is one which, once experienced, is never forgotten. The "Meeting of the Waters" takes place a short distance from this bridge, whence there is a divided channel, one branch leading to Glena Bay and the Lower Lake, and the other to the Middle Lake. It is a sequestered spot of extraordinary beauty, and Sir Walter Scott, when he visited it in 1826, in company with Miss Edgworth, was particularly struck by it, although he must have been familiar with many scenes in his own land of "mountain and of flood" which combine the beauties of hill and stream, of mountain and waterfall.

A correspondent writes to correct a mistake we fell into last week in speaking of the "Meeting of the Waters" as the scene immortalised by Moore. The poet's lines, as we remember now, when the fact is pointed out, referred to the Vale of Avoca, and not to Killarney. We correct the error, though almost sorry to have had it brought under our notice, as we could still have wished to be allowed to continue in the delusion of associating such beautiful lines with such an exquisite scene as that of the "Meeting of the Waters" on Killarney Lakes; and even now we cannot refrain from taxing our memory to quote the following verse, which so well expresses the

feeling left on the mind by a visit to the spot in question, albeit the source of its inspiration is elsewhere :—

There is not in this wide world a valley so sweet
As that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet.
Oh! the last ray of feeling and life must depart
Ere the bloom of that valley shall fade from my heart.

GENEVIEVE.

THIS poem, the firstling of Coleridge's boyish fancy, is one of the subjects on which imaginative artists delight to found a picture, since it gives such an opportunity for expression as could scarcely be found in any other circumstance than that of a lover pouring out his affection in song.

THE TASMANIAN DEVIL.

EVERYTHING connected with our dominions at the antipodes is of peculiar interest to the people of this country. Their progress and prosperity, the social habits of their denizens, and the working of their political institutions, have all an attraction for us that is irresistible; but, next to the mineral wealth of these regions, their natural productions, and the animal life with which they teem—all, generally, to us so "new and strange"—are, perhaps, the matters which most especially rivet our attention. To gratify our curiosity in this respect, the Zoological Society of London has been enabled from time to time, through the activity of its correspondents in the Australian colonies, to exhibit alive many rare animals belonging to the peculiar zoology of the antipodes which are almost unknown, even as stuffed specimens in museums, in other countries of Europe. Amongst these may be particularly



THE TASMANIAN DEVIL.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

noticed the thylacine (*Thylacinus cynocephalus*) of Tasmania, the largest carnivorous marsupial now known to exist; the great red kangaroo (*Oosphranter rufus*), the most beautifully-coloured animal of the whole series of marsupials; and the spiny anteater (*Echidna hystric*) of South Australia. Individuals of both the two former of these scarce Australian forms are living at the present time in the society's gardens.

The ursine dasyure, of which a fine example has been recently added to the society's collection through the liberty of F. J. C. Wildash, Esq., although not so rare as the two last-mentioned animals, having been more than once previously exhibited in the gardens, is yet of considerable interest, and is probably the only individual of this species living in Europe. It belongs to the group of carnivorous marsupials or pouched animals, and is remarkable for its savage and untamable disposition, whence it has acquired from its settlers in Tasmania the name of the "Devil," or "native devil." Its somewhat ugly shape, and black, unattractive appearance, may perhaps have contributed to cause this appellation to be bestowed upon it.

Mr. Harris, in his "Notes on the Mammals of Tasmania," published in the *Transactions of the Linnean Society*, says that "these animals were very common on our first settling at Hobart Town, and were particularly destructive to poultry. They, however, furnished the convicts with a fresh meal, and the flesh was said to be not unlike veal. As the settlement increased, and the ground became cleared, they were driven from their haunts near to the town to the deeper recesses of the forests yet unexplored. They are, however, easily procured by setting a trap in the most unfringed parts of the woods, baited with raw flesh, all kinds of which they eat indiscriminately and voraciously; they also, it is probable, prey on dead fish and blubber, as fish-tracks are frequently found on the sands of the seashore. In a state of confinement they appear to be untamably savage, biting severely, and uttering at the same time a low, yelling growl. A male and a female, which I kept for a couple of months chained together in an empty cask, were continually fighting; their quarrels began as soon as it was dark (as they slept all day), and continued throughout the night almost without intermission, accompanied by a kind of hollow barking, not unlike that of a dog, and sometimes a sudden kind of snorting, as if the breath was retained a considerable time and then suddenly expelled. They frequently sat on their hind parts and used their fore paws to convey food to their mouths. The muscles of the jaws were very strong, as they cracked the largest bones asunder with ease."

CONCERTS.

The Tonic Sol-fa method of teaching to sing, founded on Miss Glover's Tetrachordal system, is decidedly open to an objection that it tends to confuse the system of notation which is in general use, notwithstanding the opposite claim of merit put forward on its behalf. Simple and more intelligible in the very early steps of musical education the Sol-fa method assuredly is; but that it afterwards becomes a ready interpreter of the established system, and a sure key to its difficulties, we take leave altogether to deny. Written language may be reduced to a tolerably simple affair of sounds; but if, having brought a pupil to read and write phonetically, we wish to give him an etymological knowledge, we shall have to begin afresh, and shall indeed find the plain and easy orthography to which the young student has become accustomed very much in the way. So it is, we take it, with the Sol-fa plan of initiation in music. Moreover we remark, as a peculiarity in the choral performances of pupils under the Sol-fa method, a dependence on their knowledge of the music by rote, and a very general indifference to the written score. However, though Mr. Curwen and his coadjutors may not have justified all that they advance on the part of their system, they have earned the cordial goodwill and gratitude of all who desire the spread of an education which not only seeks to develop the understanding, but fosters and regulates the emotions. It is quite true, as Mr. Curwen says, that the ordinary schoolwork may cultivate well the reasoning powers and the memory, but that it seldom does anything for the imagination; and it is equally true that our children ought to be trained to feel truly as well as think correctly.

The choirs which assembled in the Crystal Palace on Tuesday were composed of pupils who were supposed to have learnt all they knew of music under the Tonic Sol-fa system. The meeting was of a competitive character, and the early part of the day was chiefly occupied in a trial of proficiency in part-singing. The Hull, North Staffordshire, and Brighton choirs gave each three specimens of ability, the last-named body selecting Stevenson's glee, "See our oars with feathered spray"; Nägeli's part-song, "Heavenly dwelling"; and Spofforth's "Hail, smiling morn!" a glee which every singing class is, as a matter of course, well up in. The Yorkshire folk were more ambitious. They sang Mendelssohn's beautiful canon, "The Skylark's Song;" the same composer's harmonised song, "Parting;" and Calcott's glee, "Mark the merry elves of fairyland." The North Staffordshire, like the Hull choir, chose compositions removed from the trite and commonplace category. Thus, their first effort was in dealing with Mendelssohn's part-song, "The Woods;" and they next attacked the more difficult "Shepherd's Sabbath Hymn," by Kreutzer. Lastly, they gave Calcott's glee before mentioned, and boldly challenged comparison with the Hull vocalists in their execution of this rather complex theme. Would it not have been more satisfactory if the competing choirs had sung the same music? We should not wish to deny the Brighton choristers the honours they have won; but we cannot avoid pointing out that their programme consisted of pieces which any choir would sing, at a moment's notice, from memory; while the Hull and Staffordshire assemblies appear to have gone out of their way to find difficult and little-known subjects. There were two prizes given, in the shape of silk banners richly emblazoned; the first being awarded to Brighton, and the second to North Staffordshire, while empty praise alone fell to the lot of Hull. The judges—Messrs. Goss, Turle, Hogarth, and Oiphant—may be congratulated on the fairness and discrimination of their judgments; but we feel that their task would have been simpler and more direct if the choirs had all been bound down to one selection of exercises. The two choirs that took prizes in the competition of 1860—Finsbury and the Staffordshire Potteries—also entertained the audience in the concert-room with some clever part-singing; and the whole body of vocalists, to the number of 1500, then met in the great Handel orchestra, where, after the award of prizes, Mozart's Twelfth Service was rendered very creditably from first to last. Mr. Longbottom led the united choirs, and the Crystal Palace band played the accompaniments, together with Mr. Coward on the organ.

Mdlle. Titien and Signor Giuglini at the Crystal Palace in September are rarities which find a parallel in ducks and peas in February or strawberries at Christmas. No wonder, then, that the Londoners who yet remain in and about town thronged last Saturday to enjoy a treat so deliciously out of season. If it were possible, as we have been told it is, to have too much of a good thing, perhaps Mdlle. Titien's singing eight times in one concert would be a case in point. But the audience at the Crystal Palace were altogether of a different opinion, as appeared by their encoring Mdlle. Titien twice, and trying hard to make her repeat "Il Bacio," which would have been her eleventh performance that day. Signor Giuglini, who was in excellent voice, sang nearly everything he has been singing all the summer through at the Crystal Palace concerts, and divided the applause with Mdlle. Titien. The other singers were Sig. Delle Sedie, who gave the tamest version of "Deh, vieni alla finestra," that we ever listened to, and Sig. Bossi, a young basso, evidently unaccustomed to public singing.

The Birmingham and Hereford Festivals have sadly interfered with Mr. Mellon's concerts, robbing him of his best performers, and, in the first instance, carrying him away bodily. The return of Messrs. Sinton, Lazarus, Pratten, Collins, and other distinguished instrumentalists, will enable Mr. Mellon to terminate his season, as it was begun, brilliantly.

THE CUTLERS' FEAST AT SHEFFIELD.

The Sheffield Cutlers' Feast has of late years become one of the political institutions of the country; and although there is a rule that politics shall not be talked at these convivial gatherings, the practice generally is to talk nothing but politics. This, of course, is natural; whatever people are forbidden to do being the very thing they insist on doing. Besides, how can politics and political controversy be eschewed where Mr. Roebuck is present? We do not by any means object to rule and practice being at variance in the case of the Cutlers' Feast, because we are thereby usually furnished with something to break the dull monotony of the Parliamentary recess. In this respect the feast which took place in the iron city on the 5th inst. was no exception to the ordinary practice; the rule of no politics being duly quoted, and then the practice of all politics being freely indulged in. Earl Manvers set the example, and, having slightly twitted Mr. Roebuck about his pro-Austrian sympathies, gave occasion for an amusing explosion from that gentleman; but of that more anon. We have first to notice one or two things which were said that were more within the sphere of the occasion. As thus:—The Master Cutler, after referring to the troubles in America and the interruption of trade with that country, said, in speaking of

OUR INTERCOURSE WITH FRANCE.

I trust that a bright future awaits this country. Other countries are opening up their markets to us, and I hope—indeed, I have no doubt—that those markets will eventually make up for the losses we may sustain in those parts of the world with which we have hitherto traded. We are now about—I speak in the presence of the representative of the French Emperor—we are now about to invade the empire of France, but it is with knives, scissors, ploughshares, and other articles of our industry. We intend, during the next few months, to make ourselves better acquainted with France. That country has been practically closed against our manufacturers for many years. Thanks to a man whose name is dear to this country, thanks to many others who have joined with him, we are now about to reap the benefits of extended trade and commerce with her. For this, thanks, I say, to Richard Cobden (cheers), who expresses great regret that he is not able to be present at our gathering to-night. Great regret I feel also, because he would have told you of the advantages which we may expect to derive from the opening of the French trade. It is true, as has been said, that we have suffered very greatly from the loss of the American trade, but that loss has already been partially made up by the increase of the French trade. You will scarcely believe it, but although our exports this year have, on the whole, been twenty per cent less than last year, and although many classes of our goods are not admitted to France until October, our exports to that country have increased fifty per cent.

ENGLAND AND THE AMERICAN CRISIS.

The Hon. James Stuart Wortley, referring to the struggle going on in America, said:—

It has been supposed and represented by a portion of the North American press that we look at it with rejoicing ("No, no!"), and that we exult in their sufferings. God forbid! They are our blood and our bone. At the same time, I think we have a right to judge their actions, and I say they have now arrived at a point when not England may interfere, when not France may interfere, when not England and France together, not all the Potentates of Europe, may interfere; but the voice of humanity and the public opinion of the world must interfere to prevent the further effusion of blood in so senseless and savage a war. I indulge the hope and anxious expectation that the able men who conduct the affairs of the Federalists and the Confederates will feel that the time is come when the coercion of one by the other is improper, and that they are strong enough to form two great nations—result which the people of England would be glad to see. It is imputed that our desire to side with the North is overruled by the fear of being deprived of the cotton of the South. No such thing. If we look to our own interest, we believe we shall derive great advantage; for our active and eager search for cotton in other directions will increase our supply. In the next place, we believe that if the first Napoleon, with his iron arm, could not exclude our manufactures from the Continent by his carefully-devised measures and his enormous power, that neither the Slave States nor the Northern States, nor the American people, can prevent the cotton from reaching us. For a time their measures may check and interrupt our commerce. They may embarrass and distress us; but eventually this country will again rise, by the great energies of her trade, above the difficulties created by this senseless hostility. I trust, for your sakes, and for the sake of the people of England, I am not wrong. If I have said anything that can be tortured into disrepute to any party, I regret it; but I speak in kindness when I say it is the general opinion that the time is come when the war should cease.

MR. ROEBUCK AND AUSTRIA.

As we have said, Mr. Roebuck was specially wroth at some allusions to his recent advocacy of the policy of the Emperor of Austria, and at the comments which have been made upon it in the press. *Punch*—which last week published a cartoon representing his Austrian Majesty running off with Mr. Bull's dog "Tear'em"—the Times, and the penny newspapers, were the objects at which the hon. gentleman "took a special stand to strike." Whether or not his "arrow hath glanced" is no affair of ours; but the sad arrow was feathered in this wise:—

I came to this room with a full determination of doing all I could to be as quiet as possible. I thought that I, an humble individual—though your representative—might pass without any remark being made upon me myself. But that was not the case. The noble Lord there (Earl Manvers) thought fit to make an attack upon me—why or wherefore I don't understand. I have attacked nobody. The last time I had the honour of meeting a body of Steffield gentlemen I stated certain facts which, by their denial, have not been disproved. And when the noble Lord condescended to take upon himself the rialdary of the penny press—the penny whistles that whistle at me—I should have thought that there was something that I had done that deserved reprobation. But what have I done? There is a great country in Europe that has been hitherto governed by a despotic Monarch. That Monarch, showing a great knowledge of human nature, and learning from the adversity which many men have endured, gave to the vast country under his dominion a constitutional Government. Where there was absolute government before, he has put constitutional Government, and he has said, "From this time forward I will rule according to that constitutional law." For that I praised him, and for doing this I am abused. Now, what can I get for praising that? There was a thing (*Punch*) handed about to-day where the Emperor of Austria was represented as having run away with the dog "Tear'em." But has he run away with the dog "Tear'em"? Isn't he here, and as able and willing to bark as ever? And what has the Emperor of Austria done to make him follow him away? Why, he has done simply that which every constitutional Monarch will do—he has given his people a constitutional Government; and that is the only thing I praise. Sir, we are told that this is a meeting in which there are no politics talked. I have sat here, Sir, many hours, and I have heard nothing else. My hon. friend Sir John Ramsden talked politics the whole time he addressed this company; the noble Lord who began to abuse me talked politics the whole time he addressed this company; and may not I talk a bit of politics, too? I will not press on your patience—it is late; but, though I have had the brazen roar of the *Times* and the shrill whistles of the penny press against me, here I am, nevertheless; and I have that faith in my honest countrymen that when they see a man fully impressed with the opinion that he is in the right path they will not desert him so.

THE INDIAN FAMINE DISTRICT.—The aspect of the country is now wonderfully changed. From Allyghur to Delhi, from Delhi to Meerut, and from Meerut to Moradabad, the land is one glorious mass of green, variegated here and there where the land is low and flat by patches of water. Population seems called into existence as by a wizard's wand, and every acre of ground, however distant from a station or remote from a village, is brought under the influence of the plough. From early dawn to dewy eve, as the carriage conveys you from one station to another, look where you will there are husbandmen with their oxen studded all over the plain busy with their plough. A stranger travelling through this part of the country would scarcely credit that famine had so recently visited the land. His entrance into a station, however, would tell him a sad tale. The sufferers by the famine, though not numerous, are yet sufficient to draw attention, to excite his pity, and to call for sympathy. The poorhouses bear their testimony to this. Better times, however, are at hand; and when one reflects on the barren state of the Doab but a month back, and sees the country as it now is, he may without exaggeration say it is a land flowing with milk and honey.—*Delhi Gazette*.

THE BRITON RAILWAY CATASTROPHE.

CONCLUSION OF THE INQUEST.—THE VERDICT.

The coroner's inquest into the circumstances attending the deaths of the unfortunate persons who were the victims of the above railway disaster was reopened on Tuesday in the Townhall. Much curiosity was felt in the town and neighbourhood to know the decision of the board of directors of the Brighton Railway in reference to the documents which the Coroner had ordered them to produce, and as to the course the Coroner would pursue in the event of the board persisting in their refusal to produce them. These documents were handed in by order of the directors, but they do not throw any additional light on the affair, the statements they contain being substantially to the same effect as the testimony given at the inquest by the persons from whose reports they were compiled. After these documents had been read, and the guards and engine drivers who made them had been examined as to the circumstances under which their statements were emitted, the Coroner proceeded to sum up the evidence, which he did at considerable length and with great care. In the course of his address he said:—

The questions for the jury to consider were these—whether they believed that Legg started the trains at less intervals than he should have done. It so, and if it would seem that thereby he contributed to the accident, then, to the best of his (the Coroner's) judgment, his neglect of duty would amount to manslaughter, and would be an offence which it would be for another jury to try. The second question was, whether the jury believed the evidence of Kellick. If so, that person was merely guilty of a trifling error of judgment—hardly an error at all, in fact—arising from his hurry and not from neglect of duty. He was not away from his post, and there was no evidence to show that in any other way he was guilty of negligence. The third point was, as to the working of the distance signal, whether that in any way contributed to the accident, and whether, if it did not work properly, Kellick, or any other person whose duty it was to oil and attend to it, properly performed his work. A question arose with regard to the duty of Scott, the driver of the excursion-train, what was the duty of an engine-driver under such circumstances? It was in evidence that it was the duty of a driver to whom a danger signal was shown to stop as quickly as he could and send back his guard, but not to back his train. Scott stated that he did not back his train, but that it simply receded some forty or fifty yards. The weight of evidence, however, showed that it was impossible for him to have stopped within 200 or 250 yards, but that it would take more than double that distance to stop such a train at such a speed. The guard and some of the passengers also testified that the train was in motion backwards when the collision occurred. The jury might therefore assume that Scott was mistaken or misrepresented the fact. But, although that might be a breach of the company's rules, it did not follow that he had been guilty of gross negligence. His life was in peril the same as the rest of the passengers, and he did not seem to have left his post. There was one other observation he would make with regard to the interval of five minutes. That was quite sufficient to him that a rule of this kind was likely in time to be infringed upon, so that trains would be started at less intervals than five minutes. He thought it very desirable on that account that the minimum interval should be larger, even though five minutes might be supposed to be quite sufficient as a minimum by practical men to ensure the safety of successive trains.

The jury retired to consider their verdict at three o'clock, and at seven returned into court with the following finding:—

That the persons upon whom the inquest was held were, on the 23rd day of August last, in Clayton tunnel, in the parish of Peckham, in the county of Sussex, whilst being carried in a train on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway from Brighton to London, were run into by a certain locomotive engine, and were thereby mortally injured, of which injuries they died; and that Charles Legg, assistant station-master in Brighton, by his negligence and want of common, ordinary caution, in starting three trains—one at 8.28, one at 8.32, and one at 8.35—in breach of one of the express rules of the company and of the usual practice, did in an essential degree contribute to, and indirectly cause, the deaths of the persons so killed; and that one John Scott, an engine-driver, by mistake, but not carelessly, contributed in some degree to the violence of the collision aforesaid by backing the locomotive engine and train known as the Brighton excursion-train for a distance of 100 yards, at least, in the said tunnel; and that by reason of the hurry arising from the arrival in unusually rapid succession at the south end of the Clayton tunnel of the three trains mentioned, and the temporary failure of the distance signal to act on the arrival of the first of the said three trains, a mistake or misunderstanding arose, but without negligence, in working the telegraph signals by Henry Kellick and John Brown between the two ends of Clayton tunnel, which also materially contributed to the said collision; and that the system on the 25th of August, and for a considerable time previously thereto, in conducting the traffic of the said railway between Brighton and Hassocks-gate, was defective, in not bringing immediately to the knowledge of the traffic manager for the time being such departures as happened from the said rule as to the starting of trains. And the jurors aforesaid find that the said Charles Legg, did, on the 25th day of August last, at the place aforesaid, feloniously kill and slay the persons upon whom the inquest was held.

The Coroner: Then the effect of that is a verdict of manslaughter against Mr. Legg, and a special finding. The matter must now pass into the jurisdiction of another court.

The proceedings then terminated, the investigation having occupied the attention of the Coroner and the jury for nine whole days. There was no manifestation of feeling whatever when the verdict was pronounced. We are glad to say that all the surviving sufferers by the occurrence are doing well, and are now considered out of danger.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—A lamentable accident happened to two unfortunate servant-girls, on Sunday, in an hotel in Norfolk-street, close to the waterside. The door of the kitchen, it appears, opens on the river, and one of the girls, named Mary Ann King, in accordance with her custom, opened it for the purpose of ascertaining the time by looking at the Westminster clock-tower, and, unfortunately, fell into the water. Her fellow-servant endeavoured to save her, and both of them were carried away by the tide. The former was saved; but the hapless girl who first fell in perished before assistance could reach her. At the inquest which was held on the poor girl's body the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death," recommending that means should be employed to prevent the recurrence of such an accident.

COLLISION IN THE THAMES.—A collision took place on Friday morning last week between a passenger-steamer and a brig on the river, near Eddington. The steamer Metis, on her way to Harwich, with about a hundred passengers on board, came in contact with the brig Hertha, and had her stern, bulwarks, and funnel carried away. Several persons on board were injured; and, the Metis being completely disabled, all the passengers were transferred to another of the company's steamers. The brig, which was heavily laden, was tacking at the time of the disaster.

AN INTERNATIONAL DIFFICULTY.—The seizure of the British vessel Adelisa, bound to Halifax, Nova Scotia, by the United States' revenue-yacht Henrietta, at Newport, Rhode Island, opens two very nice questions with France and England at one and the same time; for not only was the vessel seized because she had sailed from a Confederate States' port—Wilmington, in North Carolina—which was not blockade, but a French subject, M. Bebian, was arrested, subjected, as he complains, to personal indignities, and finally sent as prisoner to Fort Lafayette. I believe the cutter in question was a yacht belonging to the son of a notorious proprietor of a New York paper, and was received into the United States' service in the time of their need on the condition that the son aforesaid should be provided with the commission of a Lieutenant in the United States' Navy.—*Times Correspondent*.

KITE-FLYING EXTRAORDINARY.—An ingenious smuggling trick was practised a few days ago on the frontiers of France and Belgium, near Lille. Some boys sent up a gigantic kite, and followed it across the frontier line into Belgium. There a man attached to the tail several bundles of cigars and a large one of tobacco. The kite was again raised, and the boys quietly returned into France without paying duty on their booty.

DISTURBANCE IN HEIDELBERG.—Another disturbance has just occurred at Heidelberg, in which our countrymen were engaged. According to one story, some English tourists being present at a meeting of members of the National Verein, one of their number, excited by the speeches and the beer combined, thought proper to exhibit his loyalty by giving the health of the Queen. The proposal was, however, treated with contemptuous silence by the Verein men, and the sitting continued quietly until midnight, when the Englishmen were set upon, and had to beat a retreat after a desperate fight. The other account is that our countrymen misbehaved themselves throughout the entire evening by insulting gestures and remarks; that when the national *lied* was sung they interrupted it with groans and hisses, and that this led to a forcible expulsion. The following evening the Englishmen mustered in greater numbers, and proceeded in a body to the tavern where the sitting was held, but, the inmates having adopted the prudential course of anticipating their arrival by shutting the doors, they were balked in their object of renewing the quarrel, and had to retire. The next day the tourists quitted the town.

LAW AND CRIME.

At the Guildhall, Canterbury, the Rev. John Mitchenson, head master of the King's School, was charged on Monday last with an assault on one of his pupils, a lad of sixteen. It appeared that the boy, who was somewhat dull in his learning, had been set a task beyond his powers—namely, the learning by rote of several Latin rules of Greek grammar, with examples in both languages, the whole extending over some pages. In this task he failed, when his master ordered him to hold out his hand to receive blows upon it with a cane. The poor boy, who had seen some of his companions unable to use their fingers in the ordinary writing lesson after such an infliction, replied, "I can't, Sir," when the clerical schoolmaster cut at him right and left, like a dragoon in a cavalry charge, striking him over the breast, shoulders, and legs with such force as to break the skin through the clothes, and never desisting until after the infliction of from twenty to twenty-five blows, by which time possibly the reverend gentleman felt slightly fatigued. Hence a summons, which the magistrates, after hearing evidence as to the facts, dismissed. The schoolmaster was afterwards drawn home in triumph by his boys, amid the mingled cheers and hisses of the crowd. We do not intend to complain of the decision of the rural justices, who have a right to dismiss any charge at their discretion. Perhaps they consider it right and proper that dull boys should be thrashed into learning Greek; perhaps the parents of the other boys, and the other boys themselves, think so too. Perhaps the Reverend J. Mitchenson likes also to thrash boys; if not he must be an exception to the rule of corporal-punishment schoolmasters. But we must beg to enter our humble protest against a system of assault, however legal, being confounded with one of education. The result of forcing a boy under terror and bodily anguish to acquire any kind of learning is ordinarily to inspire him with a contempt for it and its professors. To lay all kinds of boyish minds into a Procrustes' bed of Latin and Greek, to limit the extension and rack the dwarfishness of various intellects into this one miserable pedantic idea of education, is worse than cruel—it is silly. We have noticed at a school in a cathedral city that twenty years ago the stupidest boys at these studies were choristers, many of whom have since become famous as musical composers, and to not one of whom all the Eton grammar and Greek delectus, diligently striven to be thrashed into them, has been of the slightest utility whatever. What can be the good, even when possible, of teaching a dull boy Latin rules of Greek grammar by rote? If he do not learn anything better after leaving school, all that he can do at best is to become a schoolmaster, and schoolmasters are commonly known to be men of the most limited order of intellect among educated men. When corporal punishment is allowed to be exercised by them, their ordinary exhibition of it is either the gloating of the practised torturer, or the fury of the enraged ruffian. Corporal punishment at schools engenders, as its commonest consequence, lying, fraud, cowardice, and mutual treachery among the scholars; brutality and indolence among the tutors. The mere fact of a schoolmaster assaulting a pupil, is generally the most complete practical admission on the part of the tutor that he has not the power or the capacity either to understand his pupil's mind or to make him comprehend the reason, object, or meaning of the lesson he is striving to inculcate. And it is no slight corroboration of this view that corporal punishment is most usually resorted to by masters who persist in the unnatural and antiquated system of teaching by rote, in preference to awakening and exercising the intellects of their scholars by rational explanation and illustration.

The Coroner's jury in the case of the accident on the North London Railway have returned a verdict which, however just it may be, we must consider demands a word or two of comment. They find Rayner, the signalman, guilty of manslaughter, and at the same time express their opinion that "the directors and managers are most to be blamed in not employing more experienced persons to fill such important situations as signalmen." So that the man whose fault is admitted to have arisen from "want of experience"—a defect utterly beyond the control of any one—is to be tried for manslaughter, and the parties "most to be blamed" are most to be blamed only, but, so far as criminal proceedings are concerned, let off altogether. Surely, if one man be so worthy of blame as to be held guilty of manslaughter, others more to be blamed, as being the primary cause of his offence, must be guilty of manslaughter also.

A poor widow was brought before the bench of justices at Rochester charged with stealing four small turnips. She had seen them lying on the ground in a field, and thrown away two of them on finding them filled with insects. She was very hungry, and about to eat one of the others when she was taken into custody and locked up all that day and the following night. The next morning she was brought before the Rev. J. J. Marsham and Mr. Day, who ordered her to pay 7s. 2d., and in default sentenced her to seven days' hard labour. She was, however, at last released on promising to pay the fine after her return from hop-picking.

The Rev. Henry Holloway, a clergyman, was last week charged at Westminster with several robberies at railway stations. It appeared that the rev. gentleman had been at the Victoria station, Pimlico, and was there suspected of being a thief. A reticule was placed in his way in the waiting-room, and Mr. Holloway was watched. The reticule was found afterwards in Mr. Holloway's bag. On the hearing, the prisoner's counsel raised as a point of defence that the reticule, being placed in position for the express purpose of being taken, could not be the subject of theft, which can only be constituted by the taking away of goods against the will of the owner. Mr. Arnold, the magistrate, thought this point too novel to have much weight. Hundreds of servants had been convicted of stealing marked money, and he (Mr. Arnold) could see nothing wrong in putting an aile in the way of a suspected person to see whether or not he was a thief. It was then intimated that the prisoner would be committed for trial; but he was remanded for further evidence on

other charges. It is said that the reverend prisoner was formerly Chaplain at St. Cross, Winchester.

Prince Galitzin, who has recently appeared as conductor of several concerts in London, has applied to the Insolvent Court for protection, which he obtained. He has, nevertheless, since been arrested, and compelled to give bail, on a *capias* issued on affidavit of his being about to leave the country. To this proceeding the protection of the Insolvent Court does not apply.

A man named Cogan has been committed for trial on a Coroner's finding of "Wilful murder." The prisoner states that his wife, who was of drunken habits, attacked him while asleep, cut his throat (which had dangerous incision), and afterwards her own. The evidence of Mr. Paynter, surgeon, tends to show that the fatal wound was inflicted on the woman by another person. Cogan is recovering from his injury. It is questionable whether a jury will find him "guilty" upon a mere surgical opinion, especially as the woman is proved to have been of violent temper, and to have stabbed him before. The Coroner intimated that the verdict returned by the jury was the best means of procuring the satisfactory trial of the accused.

POLICE.

A RAILWAY OFFICIAL'S IDEA OF "FRAUD."—Mr. Cross, wholesale grocer, of Limehouse and Minories, was summoned by the Blackwall Railway for not giving up his proper ticket when called upon to do so.

The defendant on the 4th of September took a railway ticket, and on the return of the train he offered the ticket-collector the half of a return ticket, when the collector said it was not of the proper date. This is easily accounted for, if such was the case, from the fact that the defendant was in the habit of travelling by the line two or three times a day, and would take a return ticket; but, owing to multiplicity of business, it frequently happened that only one part of the ticket was used, the defendant going home by some other conveyance. This caused him to have a number of unused half tickets in his pocket. In the hurry of giving up his half of the return ticket, Mann, the collector, said it was of the wrong date; and when he inquired where he had taken it, he replied, at one of the stations on the line; that he had been to Fenchurch-street with it, and had returned with the counterpart. Having given up the ticket, the collector said it was out of date, and that the numbers had been erased, and that it was not the first time he had been stopped at the same game. Defendant then took the ticket from him, and proceeded to his place of business at Limehouse. In about half an hour the collector, Mann, went to his house and applied for the ticket or the money. Defendant showed him the ticket, saying he had given it to him once, but he should not again, nor yet the price of the fare. The collector then said it was not the first time he had attempted to defraud the company. Cross then, according to the testimony of one of his clerks, whilst he had his hands in his pockets, ordered him to leave his shop; but, refusing, he pushed him with his shoulder to the door, and he fell into the street. For this assault the collector also took out a summons.

The magistrate said it behoved the railway company, for their own protection, to see that proper tickets were used, and he could have wished that they had selected a case where fraud was contemplated, but it was preposterous to suppose that Mr. Cross intended anything approximating to dishonesty. It was a mistake if he tendered the wrong ticket, and he should only inflict a nominal fine of 1s. As far as the assault went, the collector had no right to go in the manner he had to his house: he should therefore dismiss the summons.

A MODERN JEREMY DUDDLER.—Farrell Hogg was finally examined, charged with extensive swindling.

Mr. J. Gardner Pearce, of High-street, Hampstead, confectioner, said that on the 2nd of April, 1859, the prisoner came to his shop and asked the loan of half-a-crown. He had previously been there, and then spoke of several Catholic families in the neighbourhood with whom he was on terms of intimacy. Witness asked him for a reference, when he said he was related to Mr. Walford, of Church-row, Hampstead, whom he had previously spoken of in the list of persons before mentioned. He said he would not have applied to witness to borrow any money, but Mr. Walford was away from home and his wife was ill. Witness was about to give prisoner the half-crown, when he observed, "You may as well make it five shillings," when, upon the faith of his relationship he lent him that amount, but never saw any more of the prisoner, who was to have called and paid the money.

Mr. Elwin Walford, sub-editor of *Once a Week*, said the prisoner came to him early in 1859, and, having represented himself as persecuted by his family for becoming a Catholic, requested pecuniary assistance, mentioning the names of Dr. Manning and other gentlemen. Witness gave him some small literary employment, and paid him for it.

Mr. Arnold—Is he in any way related to you?

Mr. Walford—He is neither related to me nor my wife.

Mr. Arnold—Did you authorise him in any way to go to Mr. Pearce?

Mr. Walford—I did not. He has borrowed from others in my name, under similar false declarations.

Prisoner—Did you not have a recommendation with me from Lord Campden?

Mr. Walford—I saw Lord Campden, who said he knew very little about him, but had relieved him.

Prisoner—Did not Lord Rpton subscribe to your work through my asking him to do so?

Mr. Walford—I employed you, out of charity, to write circulars for me; and he might have been one of the noblemen addressed. I subsequently found it necessary to order you out of my chambers, and threatened to send for a policeman, when you soon left.

The witnesses were then bound over to prosecute in this case.

Sergeant Wilson said there was a charge of felony against the prisoner. He went to look at apartments in the house of Mrs. Rickett, when she left the room, at his request, to fetch pen and ink, and immediately after his departure half-a-sovereign was missed from the mantelpiece.

As this offence was committed in the county of Surrey, and created a difficulty about prisoner's trial, it was not proceeded with.

Miguel Riego, of 103, Regent-street, St. James's, said that prisoner came to his house a short time ago, and asked if Mr. Bonovo, a friend of his, had left there. On being informed he had, he told witness that he had by accident given a cabman his last sovereign, instead of a shilling; that he wanted to go to Woolwich, and had no money. He asked for the loan of 10s., and said his friend Mr. Bonovo would pay him; and witness on this assurance lent him the money.

Mr. Bonovo, of 10, Wigmore-street, said that on the 17th of last April he met the prisoner, who was a stranger to him, at a boarding-house, and merely exchanged ordinary civilities with him. By some means prisoner found out the mercantile house in which he was engaged in the City, and coming there borrowed 10s. of him. He lent him the money, supposing him to be a gentleman, and did not see him afterwards.

Sergeant Wilson was prepared to go on with another case against prisoner for obtaining money by representing himself as secretary to Sir James Armstrong.

Mr. Arnold committed him upon Mr. Riego's charge, and said he thought there were sufficient cases for trial; but he was remanded for further evidence on

SMUGGLING TOBACCO.—Charles Hall, steward of the Baron Osy steamship, trading between London and Antwerp, was brought before Mr. Seife, charged with smuggling.

Mr. S. Smith, an examining officer of customs, stated that he stopped the prisoner leaving the Baron Osy, near the Tower, on Thursday night last, and asked him if he anything in his basket liable to duty! The prisoner replied in the negative. He looked in the basket; there was nothing in it liable to duty. The prisoner looked bulky, and he caused him to be stripped, and found concealed about his body several papers of compressed foreign manufactured tobacco, in all 5lb. He seized the tobacco and arrested him. He also took from the prisoner a few cigars.

The prisoner made a long defence, to the effect that seamen discharged at Antwerp came home in the Baron Osy, and he supplied them with tobacco on the voyage. Sometimes as many as twenty came home in the fore-cabin. He purchased tobacco at Antwerp to supply homeward-bound sailors. He could not sell it all on the passage, for there were only ten homeward-bound seamen on board. He knew if he reported to the Custom-house officers it would be placed under seal until the vessel left London again, and he thought the best thing he could do would be to take it on shore.

Mr. Seife—And defraud the revenue?

Mr. Smith—This prisoner gets a good living. He did not do it through want.

Mr. Seife—A great many persons taken out of the Baron Osy have been brought before me and Mr. Woolrych for running contraband goods. It is a regular smuggling-vessel. The other evening I fined a man £8 who was detected bringing tobacco out of the Baron Osy, and his wife paid the money directly. I am afraid this is a too profitable speculation. You are the second steward, and know the law well. You are liable to a penalty of treble the value and duty. You are fined £7. The tobacco is forfeited.

Mr. Seife—Good! Here's the money. I can pay £7.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—Patrick Walsh, a ruffian-looking fellow, was brought before Mr. Combe for final examination, charged with stabbing Catherine Booker, with intent to murder.

The prosecutrix, a decent-looking female, whose right arm was bandaged, said that on Saturday morning week, at four o'clock, she was attending to her work in the Borough Market, when she saw the prisoner take two bunches of greens from a van she had charge of. Witness told him to put them back again, and went towards him with the counter-part. Having given up the ticket, the collector said it was out of date, and that the numbers had been erased, and that it was not the first time he had been stopped at the same game. Defendant then took the ticket from him, and proceeded to his place of business at Limehouse. In about half an hour the collector, Mann, went to his house and applied for the ticket or the money. Defendant showed him the ticket, saying he had given it to him once, but he should not again, nor yet the price of the fare. The collector then said it was not the first time he had attempted to defraud the company. Cross then, according to the testimony of one of his clerks, whilst he had his hands in his pockets, ordered him to leave his shop; but, refusing, he pushed him with his shoulder to the door, and he fell into the street. For this assault the collector also took out a summons.

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SERVANTS AND THEIR SWEETHEARTS.—George Church was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with stealing some gold brooches, a massive gold necklace, a gold ring with stones forming the word "Regard," and a number of other articles, the property of Mr. Shaw, surgeon, of High-street, Hampstead. The prisoner was further charged with stealing a quantity of floorcloth from near Somers-town.

Inspector Webb stated that the robbery at Mr. Shaw's took place in the early part of May, but the prisoner had been out of the way ever since. It appeared that the prisoner forced his company on the cook of Mr. Shaw, under the pretence that he would marry her. One Sunday evening, while the family was at church, the house was entered, and suspicion fell on the prisoner. Inspector Webb had been on the look-out for him ever since.

Police-constable Cumber said that on Saturday night he saw the prisoner carrying a bundle of oilcloth, and, suspecting his manner, he watched him as far as Church-street. The prisoner turned round, and, finding that he was being followed, threw down the oilcloth and ran off. He followed, and took the prisoner into custody, and had since found an owner for the oilcloth.

Inspector Webb asked for remand to enable him to trace the property.

Mr. D'Eyncourt remanded the prisoner for a week, and refused to accept bail.

THE LATE OUTRAGE AT ISLINGTON.—Mr. D'Eyncourt, having received a letter complaining that Mary Ann Redkisson has been spending the money which she has received from the public in a very improper manner, directed an officer to inquire into the matter; and it having been ascertained that her conduct of late has been far from discreet and very improper, the magistrate requested the reporter to say that he will not receive any more money for her. A large fund is now in the hands of a local committee; but what will ultimately be done with the money has not been stated.

SINGULAR CASE OF PARENTAL CRUELTY.—An extraordinary starvation case has been discovered in Glasgow by accident. A poor girl was found in the streets in such an emaciated state as to suggest the thought of her having been subjected to the most severe treatment.

From the girl's statement it appears that she is the daughter of Duncan M'Intyre, who lives in Argyle-street, and that he removed from Rothesay, where he carried on a grocery business, to his present residence about five years ago. This property, a large and valuable building, is his own, and he appears to possess sufficient means of maintaining a respectable position without following any calling. She stated that since her parents had come from Rothesay she had been confined in the house all that time, having only been twice outside during five years, the last time on Tuesday night, and the other occasion about three years ago. At night she was sent to sleep in a garret above the house, in which was kept a quantity of furniture. Her bed consisted of two or three pieces of carpet spread upon the floor, with a small pillow, on which she lay, and with an old worn-out blanket and coverlet above her. This was the only bed she slept on during the extreme frost of last winter, and no fire was ever placed in the apartment. She was kept continually at work in the house, and had always a set task to perform before she received any food. When any parties called at the house she was immediately sent to the garret to remain there while they were present. Her father was in the habit of beating her, while her mother looked quietly on, and afterwards they ordered her to the garret. She was frequently sent thither without having tasted food for a long time, and had to endure all the sensations of hunger till she was many times on the point of starvation. She had taken the opportunity on Tuesday night, when no one was in the house, of going out to try and obtain food, as she was suffering from hunger. Such is the substance of what the girl stated; and certainly her appearance seemed to corroborate her statements as to the cruel treatment she says she was subjected to. Though she is seventeen years of age, in bulk she is no larger than a child. She is only about three feet nine inches in height, and her body is wasted to such a degree that she resembles more an animated skeleton than a living human being.

Mr. Bonovo, of 10, Wigmore-street, said that on the 17th of last April he met the prisoner, who was a stranger to him, at a boarding-house, and merely exchanged ordinary civilities with him. By some means prisoner found out the mercantile house in which he was engaged in the City, and coming there borrowed 10s. of him. He lent him the money, supposing him to be a gentleman, and did not see him afterwards.

Sergeant Wilson said he was prepared to go on with another case against prisoner for obtaining money by representing himself as secretary to Sir James Armstrong.

Mr. Arnold committed him upon Mr. Riego's charge, and said he thought there were sufficient cases for trial; but he was remanded for further evidence on

When found in the street she was able to walk, but apparently with great difficulty; her back was slightly bent, as if from a long course of ill-usage; and her aspect was sufficient to induce the belief that no girl of her years, in health, and without any natural bodily defect, could be reduced to so pitiable a condition had she been properly taken care of. She was examined by several medical gentlemen in the police office, who were all of opinion that, both physically and mentally, the girl was naturally in a healthy condition, and they could only account for her present appearance as being occasioned by want of proper treatment. The affair is undergoing investigation by the authorities.

HORRIBLE MURDERS AT SEA.—The barque *Czarina*, of Boston, arrived at Frederick (Indiana) on the 23rd ult., and reported that, on July 30, the mate killed the captain (Dwyer) with a hatchet while asleep. He then proceeded on deck and killed the second mate. The next day he shot the carpenter from the end of the jibboom, and he fell into the sea. He then shot a seaman dead on deck. He also shot a passenger in the shoulder. He then rigged out a boat with mast, sail, provisions, &c., and attempted to fire the barque and leave in his boat, but was set upon by the crew and killed. No cause is assigned for these terrible acts.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

Notwithstanding that the accounts from all parts of England in reference to the harvest are very favourable, and that the exports of grain to America have been on a moderate scale throughout the month of August, the market has been very quiet; nevertheless, prices generally have ruled tolerably firm. Commodity Money have realised 93 1/2 d. ditto per Account, 93 1/2 d. Reduced and New Three per Cent., 94 1/2 d. ex div.; Exchequer Bills, March, 2d, ditto 2s. prem.; June, 5s. to 8s. prem.

There is only a limited inquiry for money for commercial purposes, and the best short bills are readily done in Lombard-street, from 40s. to 31s. 3d. per cent.

About £80,000 in gold out of recent imports has been disposed of to the Bank of England.

The amount for wool in Boston comes at 107 1/2 to 117 1/2, with the usual fluctuation.

The exchange at New York comes at 107 1/2 to 117 1/2, with a dull market.

Indian Stocks have ruled tolerably firm. The Five per Cent. has marked 103 1/2; Rupie Four per Cent., 81; Ditto Five per Cent., 97; and the Debentures, 9 1/2.

Some excitement has been produced in the Stock Exchange owing to the failure of one of the largest operators.

The silver market is steady, at 6s. 1d. to 6s. 2d. per centum.

The steamer for India has on board £96,475 in silver and £1,950 in gold, and the amount is nearly equal to that of last week, very little change has taken place in the value of Foreign Bonds. The market, however, on the whole, has ruled firm, notwithstanding that the dealings have been by no means numerous. Brazilian Five per Cent. have realised 101 1/2, Ditto, 1859 and 1860, 102 1/2; Ditto, Four and-a-half-H.p. per Cent., 101 1/2, 1859 and 1860; Ditto, Four and-a-half-H.p. per Cent., 101 1/2, 1861; Ecuador New Consolidated, 103 1/2 ex div.; Mexican Three per Cent., 22 1/2; New Granada Three-and-a-half per Cent., Deferred; 1/2; Sardinian Five per Cent., 7 1/2; Spanish Three per Cent., 41 1/2, Ditto, 1/2; Portuguese, 5 1/2; Turkish Six per Cent., 81; Ditto, 100, 6s. 2d.; Belgian Four per Cent., 101 1/2; and Belgian Four and-a-half-H.p. per Cent., 94.

The joint-stock Bank Shares have been fair request, at full or above par.

Agra and United Service have marked 61 1/2; Chartered Mercantile of India, London and China, 24 1/2 ex div.; Colonial, 37 1/2; London and County, 33 1/2; London Joint stock, 32; London and Westminster, 66 1/2; Oriental, 60 1/2; Provincial of Ireland, 98; Union of Australia, 40 1/2; and Union of London, 27.

Colonial Government Securities have been firm. Canada Six per Cent. have sold at 110; Ditto, Five per Cent., 109 1/2; New South Wales, 109 1/2; New Zealand, 109 1/2; and South Australian, Six per Cent., 108 1/2.

The transactions in the Miscellaneous Market have been limited. Colonial Palace Preference Shares have sold at 104 1/2. Netherlands Land Eight per Cent. Preference, 6; Oriental Steam 41 1/2; Peel River Land and Mineral, 49; Red Sea and India Telegraph, 7 1/2; and Royal Mail Steam, 51 1/2.

The business doing in Railway Shares has not increased to any important extent. The market, however, generally speaking, has continued firm; and, in some instances, a slight improvement has taken place in the quotations.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The supplies of English wheat on offer this month have been very moderate. For most kinds the demand has ruled steady, at a further advance in the quotations of from 1s. to 2s. per quarter. Foreign wheat has advanced 1s. per quarter with a fair inquiry on French account. Floating cargoes have continued somewhat active. There has been a fair sale for barley, at very full prices; but the rate for malt has fallen off. The oat trade may be considered steady, and a full average price has been passing in from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per quarter, at extreme rates. Flours sold steadily, and are well supported.

POTATOES.—The supply of fat stock have been reasonably good. Prime beasts and sheep have to a steady demand. Beef from the trade has risen 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per quarter.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—MR. F. STRANGE'S GREAT ANNUAL BENEFIT FESTIVAL, TUESDAY, 17th September, 1861. The most attractive Shilling Fête of the year. For the convenience of parties arriving by the early trains, the Palace will be opened at Nine o'clock.

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